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BRADBURY'S CHERRIES CRASH TO HOME LOSS

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Phillips stands the test of time –
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SAINTS OUT-FOXED

TERRY PAINE



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CRICKET



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NON-LEAGUE



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best coverage
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LEICESTER 3 SAINTS 2

SAINTS' winning start to the season came to an end as they were beaten 3-2 in a thrilling match at Leicester.

Darius Vassell and Richie Wellens put the Foxes two

goals up before Dan Harding dragged one back.

A controversial Rickie Lambert own goal made it 3-1 at half time and David Connolly's goal just after the restart was not enough to spark a Saints recovery.

WHAT WENT WRONG? Saints carry out an inquest after the first goal.

LEICESTER V SAINTS MATCH REPORT AND PICTURES – SEE PAGES 2-3



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Saints Spotlight

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LEICESTER 3 SAINTS 2: FIGHTBACK FALLS

SAINTS CAN'T A DISASTROUS

SAINTS' winning start to the season came to an end as they were beaten 3-2 in a thrilling match at Leicester.

Darius Vassell and Richie Wellens put the Foxes two goals up before Dan Harding dragged one back.

A controversial Rickie Lambert own goal made it 3-1 at half time before David Connolly put Saints back in the hunt just after the restart.

Saints piled the pressure on Leicester from then on but a mixture of fantastic saves from Kasper Schmeichel and a few unfortunate moments in front of goal saw Nigel Adkins' men lose their first game of the campaign.

Saints got off to the worst possible start as they fell behind on three minutes.

Leicester had kept the ball virtually since kick off, patiently passing it around at the back.

They then worked it down the left and, after Jose Fonte only half cut out a ball skidding along the slick surface,

Adam Leitch

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CHIEF SPORTS REPORTER



BACK IN IT: David Connolly scores.

Andy King collected it on the wing.

His inswinging right footed cross took a deflection that

only **Darius VASSELL** was alert to and he made a near post run and calmly finished low first time past Kelvin

Davis from close range for 1-0.

The Foxes were dealt a blow though just three minutes later as David Nugent limped off injured to be replaced in attack by Jeffrey Schlupp.

King was involved in another Leicester chance on ten minutes but he headed over unchallenged when picked out in the middle of the area by Paul Konchesky's left wing cross.

It was a very shaky start for Saints and they were riding their luck to just stay one behind.

They allowed Matt Mills a header from six yards out from a corner on 12 minutes but, though powerful, it was a nice height for Davis and he was able to dive to his left and push it away.

After that moment Saints did start to get their foot on the ball and created a first opening on 16 minutes when Adam Lallana's brilliant chipped pass found Jack Cork in on goal. It was tough having to hit a dropping ball first time and Cork could only slice it straight back up in the air.

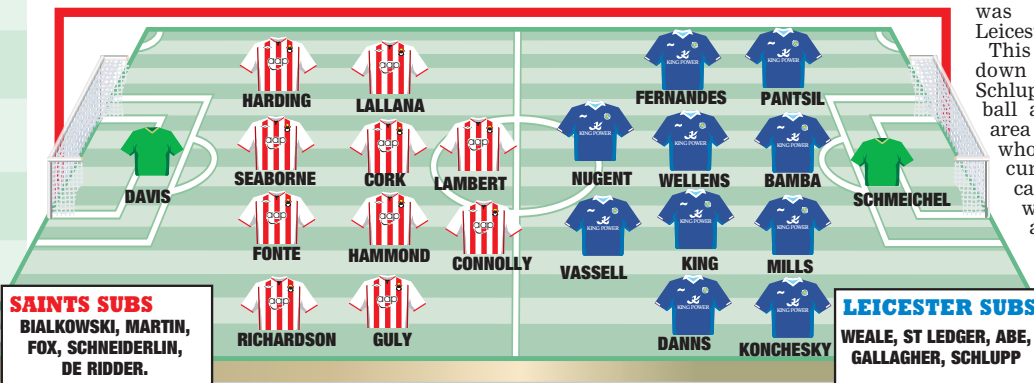
But Saints' attacking spell was ended by another Leicester goal on 22 minutes.

This time it was created down the right side with Schlupp managing to feed the ball across the edge of the area to **Richie WELLENS** who hit a brilliant, first time curling shot as the ball came across his body that went into the top corner and gave Davis no chance and it was 2-0.

Saints did pull one back though six minutes later.

Lallana did superbly to work his way to the left by-line and stabbed a cross back into the six-yard box that was met by **Dan HARDING** who had tracked into the area and his header flew past Kasper Schmeichel for 2-1.

Up the other end Davis did well to ensure Saints didn't concede almost immediately



It was yet another unchanged team for Nigel Adkins as Saints travelled to Leicester.

Adkins has been keen to stress the need for a squad game this season but has used fewer players than any other

TEAM NEWS

Championship boss, due to the superb early season results from his side.

Adkins withdrew Dean Hammond at half time the pre-

vious weekend and Adam Lallana early in the second period due to fatigue but after a clear week both were in the starting line-up.

There were also no changes on the subs bench.

TODAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS AND TABLE - SEE BACK PAGE

Saints Spotlight

SHORT AS THE WINNING RUN COMES TO AN END

RECOVER FROM OPENING HALF

from Gelson Fernandes' header.

Neil Danns was the next to have a go but his effort from distance curled just wide of the top corner.

Davis was called into action again to produce a diving save to his left to keep out Konchesky's 30 yard free kick on 39 minutes.

Leicester had appeals for a penalty waved away when Schlupp went down in the box but it did appear that Fonte got the ball.

Just as it seemed that Saints would get into the break with a one goal deficit Leicester grabbed a third goal some two minutes into first half stoppage time.

It came from a corner from which Matt Mills won the first header and **Rickie LAMBERT** deflected a header into his own net from six yards out, though Saints were incensed as they were convinced he was being fouled by Sol Bamba which forced him into the mistake.

The goal stood though and at half time it was 3-1.

Saints made an interesting half time change with Morgan Schneiderlin coming on for Frazer Richardson. Cork dropped to right back with Schneiderlin alongside Dean Hammond in the centre of midfield.

Leicester were defending their lead by playing more of a 4-5-1 formation.

Dan Seaborne became the first player in the book for a foul on Schlupp on the very edge of the area just to the right of centre. Konchesky put the free kick over the bar.

David Connolly had his first real effort on 51 minutes but it was also over.

Guly Do Prado drilled an effort goalwards moments later that Schmeichel had to dive low to his right to turn wide.

Saints got the goal they had been pressing for on 53 minutes.

It came from a left wing corner that got a Leicester flick to the far post where **CONNOLLY** was lurking and met the ball with a diving header from a yard out to make it 3-2.

Saints were getting the ball down and putting Leicester on the back foot but King gave them a reminder with a shot from 20 yards that he dragged across goal



BEST FOOT FORWARD: Jose Fonte gets up for a header, above. Right: David Connolly celebrates his goal.

Pictures: Matt Watson.



and narrowly wide.

Saints had appeals for a penalty waved away when Lallana went down just inside the area.

Steve De Ridder was introduced on 71 minutes for Do Prado as Saints continued to have the better of the game and squeezed more and more pressure on Leicester.

Leicester were starting to look very shaky and made a change with Paul Gallagher coming on for King.

Danns was the second man in the book for a foul on Harding.

Saints made a final change with ten minutes remaining with Danny Fox replacing Harding.

Moments later only a brave block from Mills prevented Lallana from levelling it up.

Connolly came even closer as his

drilled far post effort was blocked by a combination of the post and Schmeichel.

Saints were all over Leicester and could have equalised on 84 minutes as Lambert played in Lallana but his shot was saved by the legs of Schmeichel.

And the keeper produced an even more remarkable save moments later as Fox got to the by-line, cut it back to Lallana and

from point blank range Schmeichel stopped his first time effort.

Leicester made a final switch with Yuki Abe on for Wellens before Danns fired an effort straight at Davis.

Saints piled on the pressure in stoppage time but somehow contrived not to find an equaliser and it ended with a first defeat of the season.

Adkins rues two soft goals

NIGEL Adkins was left scratching his head after Saints slipped to their first defeat of the season.

After a slow start that saw Saints fall 2-0 down early on, they bounced back and absolutely battered the Foxes late on.

Somehow though Leicester held on and inflicted a rare loss on Saints.

Adkins said: "We played some good football but the fact of the matter is we've given them two soft goals to start off with."

"We talked about that at half time in the dressing room and we'll analyse that in the cold light of day but then we've got a grip of the game."

"When you look at their third goal right on half time it's a clear foul on Rickie Lambert who puts the ball in the back of the net."

"But the referee gives it and that if anything it gave them a little bit more for the second half."

"Great credit to the players for the way they came out in the second half."

"We talked about concentrating on the process of what we wanted to do and we passed the ball about ever so well and created numerous opportunities."

"The lads gave it a right good go and we still believed we were going to win the game."

It's now just a few days until the close of the transfer window, with speculation increasing that Saints may move for Leicester striker Martyn Waghorn.

"There's going to be mass speculation between now and midnight on Wednesday and there's a lot of phone calls that will go on," smiled Adkins.

St Mary's cup task

SAINTS could face either Charlton or Preston North End at St Mary's in the third round of the Carling Cup.

Nigel Adkins' men will play their second round tie at Swindon on Tuesday night.

The winner will then host the victors in the game between Charlton and Preston in the week commencing September 19.

Also, Saints' home match against Birmingham City, scheduled for Saturday, September 17, will now be held a day later.

The game has been moved to Sunday, September 18, because of the Blues' Europa League commitments.

The Championship match was due to be televised live, but will now no longer be shown.

MORE LEICESTER v SAINTS IN MONDAY'S DAILY ECHO

Sports Quiz

- 1 In which year did Scotland's Chris Paterson make his first Rugby World Cup appearance?
- 2 Against which country did Graeme Swann make his England Test debut?
- 3 Which Engage Super League club play at the Rapid Solicitors Stadium?
- 4 Has Andy Murray won more or less than 20 career titles?
- 5 Jupp Heynckes is coach of which major European football club?
- 6 With which club did Arsene Wenger become a head coach for the first time?
- 7 How many triple centuries has India batsman Virender Sehwag scored in Test cricket?
- 8 Which racecourse hosted the famous Ebor Festival last week?
- 9 New Sunderland scout Steve Staunton previously managed which north-east club?
- 10 Candlestick Park is home to which NFL team?
- 11 From which club did Wolves sign winger Matt Jarvis?
- 12 Batsman Rahul Dravid played for which Indian Premier League side in this year's tournament?
- 13 Where do Aviva Premiership club London Irish play their home matches?



RAHUL DRAVID

- 14 Which two drivers race for Team Lotus in this season's Formula One championship?
- 15 Ashley Jackson represents England in which sport?
- 16 Which male tennis player appeared in eight consecutive US Open singles finals in the 1980s?
- 17 The Nashville Predators play which sport?
- 18 Which four cities have twice hosted the modern summer Olympics?
- 19 Alex Song joined Arsenal from which French club?
- 20 Which Engage Super League side play their home games at Odsal Stadium?
- 21 Nico Rosberg drives for which Formula One team?
- 22 What nationality is golfer Martin Kaymer?
- 23 Before Harry Redknapp in 2008, who was the last English manager to win the FA Cup?
- 24 Who was runner-up in this year's Snooker World Championship final?
- 25 Which NFL team have won the most Super Bowl titles?

ANSWERS

1. 1999; 2. India; 3. Wakefield Wildcats; 4. Less (18); 5. Bayern Munich; 6. Nancy; 7. York; 8. Darlington; 9. The San Francisco 49ers; 10. Madams Stadium; 11. J4 Jarno Tull and Heikki Kovalainen; 12. Rajasthan Royals; 13. Lend; 14. 17 ice hockey; 15. Athens (1996, 2004), Paris (1900, 1924), London (1908, 1948) and Los Angeles (1932, 1984); 16. Bastia; 17. Bradford Bulls; 18. Mercedes GP; 19. Germany; 20. Joe Royle (Everton, 1995); 21. Judd Trump; 22. Pittsburgh Steelers (six).

Saints Spotlight

Adam Leitch

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CHIEF SPORTS REPORTER

BLACKPOOL'S decision to sign former Saints striker Kevin Phillips is looking like an inspired piece of business by Ian Holloway.

Before this weekend the veteran front man had already bagged himself four Championship goals this season – taking his career league tally to a remarkable 229.

Phillips was available for nothing having been released by Birmingham after suffering the third relegation of his Premiership career.

Having initially gone down with Sunderland in 2003, Phillips was also relegated with Saints two years later before the agony resurfaced last May.

But, having celebrated his 38th birthday last month, the big question was whether his legs could still handle it.

Motivation is clearly not a problem for Phillips – he still keeps himself in great shape and obviously is desperate to keep playing.

You would imagine that, in terms of career targets achieved, Phillips can't expect to get many more.

You would also imagine that as long as he has been sensible, money isn't his primary reason for playing on these days.

So it can only be his love for the game.

That makes him a very dangerous player for opponents – somebody who is entirely self-motivated, who knows the clock is running down and is hungry to sign off in style.

Phillips is at a stage of his career where he is mature enough to manage himself and his own workload.

He doesn't need a manager to tell him what to do, to shout at him – he can make decisions himself in conjunction with his boss.

Remarkable statistics

Holloway wouldn't have signed Phillips expecting him to start every game of a gruelling season.

But instead he will be looking to pick and choose the right matches to put him in the side and the rest of the time have his undoubted quality and eye for goal to come off the bench.

Phillips has always offered more than goals – and he offers plenty of them as well.

During his first team stint with Saints he was always being praised by Gordon Strachan for his remarkable statistics when it came to holding the ball up.

Phillips remains the club's second most expensive striker, having been signed by Strachan for £3.25m in August 2003 from Sunderland.

Looking back at the day he signed, you get the impression Phillips has been in the veteran stage of his career for a while, and yet keeps thriving.

"This is the part of his career where he can be

SUPER KEV STANDING THE TEST OF TIME



GOAL: Kevin Phillips scores on his St Mary's return with Birmingham in August 2008.

most influential," said Strachan of his then 30-year-old player.

"Kevin brings influence and stature and you could feel the buzz around the training ground when the players were told."

The unhappy truth of the situation was that Phillips didn't have the best of times at a Saints team going off the rails following on from their season of mammoth success that culminated in the FA Cup final.

There were constant rumours that Phillips and James Beattie didn't hit it off and what seemed like it would be a dream partnership never turned out that way.

Phillips managed to be one of the Saints players who played under four managers in a year and suffered relegation with Saints before sealing a switch to Aston Villa in June 2005 for £1m.

It was the second time in Phillips' career that a spell at Saints had

TODAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS AND TABLE - SEE BACK PAGE

Saints Spotlight



GREAT MEMORY:
Kevin Phillips scores
Saints' winner against
Pompey in 2004.

Time is on Rickie's side in Kev pursuit

SAINTS striker Rickie Lambert is one of only seven strikers in the top four divisions who have scored more than 150 career goals in the Premiership or Football League.

Ex-Saint Kevin Phillips is well out on top, with 229 goals. Phillips has started the current season well, with doubles against Peterborough and Brighton in Blackpool's first four Championship games.

Only two others have reached 200 career league goals – Leyton Orient's Jamie Cureton and Scott McGleish, who is now at Bristol Rovers.

fifth highest with 176 league goals. The 35-year-old's tally would no doubt be much higher had he not spent three years in prison for killing a father-of-four in a car crash.

Cardiff City's Rob Earnshaw has 166 league goals while Lambert is sixth highest with 156.

But at 29 years of age, the Saints talisman still has many years on his side as he targets the 200-goal milestone.

Former England star Michael Owen, now at Manchester United, is just one away from hitting 150 career English



HOWARD EARNSHAW HUGHES

Cureton, who turns 36 this weekend, has 204 goals while McGleish, 37, has scored a goal fewer.

All of McGleish's goals have come in either the third or fourth tiers of English football.

Fourth in the list is Leicester City's Steve Howard, with 187 goals – including 96 for Luton Town.

Notts County's Lee Hughes is league goals.

Robbie Keane was just three away prior to leaving Tottenham to join LA Galaxy earlier this month.

Bolton's Robbie Blake is on 145 career league goals, while Sheffield Wednesday's Clinton Morrison is seven goals short of the 150 barrier.

England striker Darren Bent is on 140 goals, the same as Chelsea's Frank Lampard.

Kevin Phillips' season by season league record

		Gms	Gls				
				2003-04	Saints	34	12
1994-95	Watford	16	9	2004-05	Saints	30	10
1995-96	Watford	27	11	2005-06	Aston Villa	23	4
1996-97	Watford	16	4	2006-07	WBA	36	16
1997-98	Sunderland	43	29	2007-08	WBA	35	22
1998-99	Sunderland	26	23	2008-09	Birmingham	36	14
1999-2000	Sunderland	36	30	2009-10	Birmingham	19	4
2000-01	Sunderland	34	14	2010-11	Birmingham	14	1
2001-02	Sunderland	37	11	2011-12	Blackpool	4	4
2002-03	Sunderland	32	6				

ended in disappointment.

Phillips was famously a trainee at Saints but was released by the club who didn't think he would make it.

Fantastic success

At that point in time, though, Phillips was playing as a right back rather than a striker.

Phillips dropped into non-league and was converted to a striker, and a prolific one at that, at Baldock Town.

His goalscoring prowess drew the attentions of Watford where he established himself as a Football League striker – playing in the same side as another youngster, current Saints striker David Connolly – before a move to Sunderland in 1997 that was to make his career.

Phillips enjoyed fantastic success with the Black Cats over a seven-year period, twice hitting 30 goals in a season and finishing up with more than 100 for the club in a brilliant partnership with Niall Quinn.

Phillips, who won eight caps for England, then went on to play for Saints, Villa, West Brom and Birmingham before his switch to Blackpool.

He is comfortably the highest scoring striker playing in the four professional divisions in terms of his career stats. Phillips shows few signs of letting up at the moment, proving once more that age isn't a barrier if you have the right state of mind.



GOAL: Kevin Phillips scores for Blackpool against Peterborough this month.



RICKIE LAMBERT: Has scored over 150 league goals.

Nigel has surpassed even his own targets

NIGEL ADKINS started out as a physio.

Now his career in football has gone from healing damaged limbs to repairing damaged clubs.

Adkins' record as Saints boss is superb, with a win percentage of 70 per cent having won 35 games out of 50, and breaking a club record for successive home wins and achieving the best start to a campaign ever.

When he was first sought after by chairman Nicola Cortese following Alan Pardew's sacking, some fans questioned whether the club still had ambition.

Many wanted a bigger name to take the reins.

However, what Adkins has shown at Scunthorpe is he could mould together a group of players, and his man-management skill was his greatest strength.

The first thing Adkins did at Saints was to not rock the boat, but to get to know the players.

Pardew was popular with all the players, a 'footballers' man', but something was missing under him.

The transformation of Saints under Adkins was quick, steady and quiet.

He was soon getting the team playing for him with his unique stamp of football.

He made the best use of the technical players that he had at his disposal, like Adam Lallana, Morgan Schneiderlin and Alex Chamberlain.

The focus was on retaining possession and removing the ideas of a direct approach which Pardew favoured.

The move to change the style was brave, but the players adapted quickly.

Adkins saw that on a technical level at League One level Saints were unsurpassed.

While the champagne football was flowing, behind the scenes Adkins was building confidence.

He has never criticised the team, or a player.

It's clear Adkins knows more than many managers about the psychological side of the game.

One particular player he singles out for praise consistently is Guly do Prado, pictured above.

To many Saints fans he was something of an enigma last season.

He has undoubted quality yet sometimes makes some noticeable errors.

Even when Guly didn't have his best game, Adkins would defend him and praise him, and now Guly is one of the most important players.

He has repaid the faith that Adkins put into him with vital goals.

Many fans are surprised that Saints have started the season in such spectacular fashion, but we shouldn't be.

Much of football is won psychologically.

What Adkins has done is made the players mentally focussed.

Last season he said "substitutes aren't substitutes, they're impact players".

He knows that leagues aren't won by teams but are won by squads, and this squad has the ability to take the Championship by storm.

MICHAEL CARR



SAINTS PASS EVERY TEST

BY the time you read this, Saints will either have added to their record-breaking winning start or will finally have succumbed to a draw or defeat.

Either way, Saints' start to the campaign has been nothing short of sensational.

Will it continue?

You can be pretty sure that every Saints fan views each new game with the same thought: "Ah, this one is the big tester."

If facing Leeds in the first game of the season wasn't a big enough test, then it would seem that every game brings a new challenge.

Ipswich away was seen as a major test, Millwall at home another major test and, if high spending Leicester isn't a massive test, then nothing is.

On a personal front, I rather hope Saints draw, bringing a dignified end to this winning streak and relieving the inevitable pressure that seems to be building.

It may seem odd wanting a winning streak to end, but it has to sooner or later and I'd much rather it does against a side that everyone seems to fancy for promotion rather than a side for whom a draw would be seen as a failure.

SLOW BURN

Right now everything seems to be in place but success breeds insecurity and pressure and I'd much rather see a slow burn for this season, with Saints maintaining a smooth progressive start to what will hopefully be a successful season.

Last week's home game against Millwall was such a marker.

You could argue that it wasn't as good a game as the previous four, but in many ways it was the most important.

When you're not firing on all cylinders and can still grind out a win and keep a clean sheet, then you know you're on to something good.

The Millwall game also threw up some more questions, some of a more serious, non-footballing nature.



BIG TEST: Ex-Pompey striker David Nugent and his Leicester City teammates will present a big test of Saints' Championship credentials today.

No doubt many of us have seen worse scenes of violence at a football ground and in the big scheme of things the altercations between Millwall fans and Saints fans were probably nothing to write home about.

But what if you're seven years old? What sort of impression did Saturday leave with you? Handbags or something scarier that you'd much rather not repeat?

I was amazed that after the first half altercations between Millwall fans and Saints fans in the Northam end, the two sets of fans were allowed to leave the ground at the same time.

Who can forget the shenanigans that followed the authorities allowing Saints and Pompey fans being allowed to mingle after the FA cup game? It obviously beggars belief that this could happen once, let alone twice.

If the police are naïve enough to let Saints fans and Pompey fans mingle after a high profile game then it asks serious questions.

To see fans fighting in the stands at the Millwall game and then allow the two sets of supporters to leave at the same time poses one of them.

ERRORS

I cannot see how anyone can possibly argue the case for the authorities on either occasion.

With the Pompey game looming heavy in the horizon there's no room for further errors of judgement.

The whole of the UK will be watching Saints hopefully right some wrongs from the last few years and sending Pompey home with their tails firmly between their legs.

What they don't want to see is more trouble, more incidents dragging the good name of this club into the gutter.

The whole UK will be watching, and this time there will be no excuse for allowing the two sets of fans to mingle after the game.

If they do then questions will have to be asked... serious ones.

SEE MONDAY'S ECHO FOR MORE SAINTS V LEICESTER REACTION

Paine's World

The Saints legend's **EXCLUSIVE** column on all things football



Best of luck to Harry!



HAVING confirmed the signing of Emmanuel Adebayor on a season-long loan from Manchester City I would like to wish Harry Redknapp the best of luck in handling this Togo international.

The 27-year-old, left, had a massive fall-out with Mancini and was quickly shipped out to Real Madrid.

He had initially joined City from Arsenal in a £25m deal in July 2009.

His total of 81 goals in 186

appearances in all competitions was quite phenomenal, and he boasts a fantastic record against Spurs, scoring eight league goals for North London rivals Arsenal.

He also scored twice against Tottenham in the Champions League quarter-final first leg encounter at the Bernabeu last season.

The main haggling point over the deal to Spurs was Adebayor's astronomical wages at City – a reported

£170,000 a week.

It was this financial detail that had to be thrashed out.

But, now that it has been settled, Redknapp has to do what he does best, and that is to get Adebayor on-side.

With the release of Robbie Keane to LA Galaxy, and a distinct lack of goals at White Hart Lane last season, where Roman Pavlyuchenko, Peter Crouch,

Jermain Defoe and Keane only managed 18 in the league between them, Adebayor's signing could be a blessing in disguise.

What I am really hoping is that there are no preconditions to this loan deal.

If not, the spectacle of Spurs' new signing running out at White Hart Lane on Sunday will be a must watch – reason being Tottenham's opponents are none other than Manchester City.

Chelsea grab star Spaniard

CHELSEA have completed the signing of Valencia's Juan Mata for a reported £23.5m.

The 23-year-old has signed a five-year contract at Stamford Bridge.

Mata, pictured, had been at Valencia since 2007, having moved from the Real Madrid youth team, and he captained Spain's under-21s to victory in the European Championships this summer.

He was also a part of Spain's 2010 World Cup winning squad.

Mata scored eight goals last season, helping Valencia secure a Champions League spot, after finishing third in the Primera Division.

Andre Villas-Boas would like Chelsea to become more of an attacking force, and, with

Mata able to play either on the left or right, his acceleration will certainly put defenders on the back foot.

In my opinion, Chelsea's Achilles heel is that they have not had any natural wide players in their make up, but Mata way well be the one in that Arjen Robben mould that they have so sorely missed.

Chelsea's stuttering win over West Brom last weekend emphasised the need for the club to freshen up their team.

The same old formation and players left me feeling rather bored with Chelsea's approach as I watched the game.

I just wonder whether Daniel Sturridge will be called upon when he finishes his current suspension.

He certainly looked Chelsea's most efficient striker in pre-season. So, will he be given the chance, or will the price tag on Fernando Torres put too big a strain on relations at Stamford Bridge?

Valencia have now sold all four of their 2010 World Cup winners – Mata to Chelsea, David Villa to Barcelona, David Silva to Manchester City and Raul Albiol to Real Madrid.



CITY GENT: Samir Nasri has swapped London for Manchester.



Nasri is the final piece in Roberto City jigsaw

THERE was never a doubt that the big spenders in the Premier League would get their men.

Protracted negotiations have seen Manchester City, Chelsea and Tottenham all bring in quality players.

Samir Nasri's arrival at City was brought to a final conclusion by the club's threat to balk, fearing the possibility of the Frenchman being cup tied if he played for Arsenal at Udinese in the second leg of their Champions League qualifier.

The attacking midfielder, who was born in Marseille and made 125 appearances for the Gunners, scoring 27 goals, hastily became Manchester City's fourth major signing this summer.

Nasri scored 15 goals in all competitions for Arsenal last season. His stats also show an uncanny ability to find telling passes in the last third. He headed that particular list last season, by making 601, finishing ahead of Chelsea's Florent Malouda.

Nasri was named the French player of the year in 2010 and was included in the PFA team of the year for the 2010/11 season.

Roberto Mancini, Manchester City's manager, has now purchased a fluid player who can play all across the midfield.

He is very similar in style to David Silva, so it will be very interesting to see how both play-

ers will fit into the scheme of things. But the prospect of them playing and linking up with Sergio Aguero is mouth-watering in itself.

If Carlos Tevez is to remain as well, then the Manchester City's striking department – which has opened up with seven league goals – will become even more explosive.

This final piece of the jigsaw will be City's last foray into the current transfer window.

With all the new signings, one has to suggest that the likes of England internationals James Milner and Gareth Barry may well end up doing more bench warming.

No excuses now

That is not exactly what England manager Fabio Capello would want.

Mancini can have no excuses now. He has a squad with enough depth to not only challenge for the Premier League title, but to also make a mark in the Champions League. However, City do have in front of them a very tricky Group A, in the shape of Bayern Munich, first-timers Napoli, and Spain's Villareal.



Saints Spotlight

SAINTS' FIRST TEAM FIXTURES AND RESULTS 2011/12



AUGUST

Sat 6 Leeds H
 Tues 9 Torquay (CC1)..... H
 Sat 13 Barnsley A
 Tues 16 Ipswich A
 Sat 20 Millwall H
 Sat 27 Leicester A
 Tues 30 Swindon (CC2) A

W 3-1
 W 4-1
 W 1-0
 W 5-2
 W 1-0

Hammond*** 1
 Chaplow 1
 Hammond
 Hammond*

Harding
 Dickson
 Harding
 Harding
 Harding

Cork
 Schneiderlin
 Cork
 Cork
 Cork

Lallana 1
 Holmes*
 Lallana*** 2
 Lallana**

Lambert
 Lambert 1
 Lambert
 Lambert 2
 Lambert

Connolly* 1
 Do Prado***
 Connolly** 1
 Connolly** 1
 Connolly***

De Ridder*
 Lallana*
 Chaplow*
 Schneiderlin*
 Schneiderlin*

Chaplow**
 Hammond**
 De Ridder**
 Fox**
 Fox**

Schneiderlin***
 Forte*** 1
 Schneiderlin***
 De Ridder***
 De Ridder***

SEPTEMBER

Sat 10 Notts Forest H
 Sat 17 Birmingham H
 Sat 24 Burnley A
 Wed 28 Cardiff A

OCTOBER

Sat 1 Watford H
 Sat 15 Derby A
 Tues 18 West Ham H
 Sat 22 Reading A
 Sat 29 Middlesbrough H

NOVEMBER

Tues 1 Peterborough H
 Sat 5 Coventry A
 Sat 19 Brighton H
 Sat 26 Bristol City A
 Tues 29 Hull H

DECEMBER

Sat 3 Doncaster A
 Sat 10 Blackpool H
 Sun 18 Portsmouth A
 Mon 26 Crystal Palace H
 Fri 30 Bristol City H

JANUARY

Mon 2 Brighton A
 Sat 14 Notts Forest A
 Sat 21 Leicester H
 Tues 31 Cardiff H

FEBRUARY

Sat 4 Birmingham A
 Sat 11 Burnley H
 Tues 17 West Ham A
 Sat 18 Derby H
 Sat 25 Watford A

MARCH

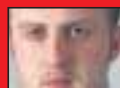
Sat 3 Leeds A
 Tues 6 Ipswich H
 Sat 10 Barnsley H
 Sat 17 Millwall A
 Tues 20 Hull A
 Sat 24 Doncaster H
 Sat 31 Blackpool A

APRIL

Sat 7 Portsmouth H
 Mon 9 Crystal Palace A
 Sat 14 Reading H
 Tues 17 Peterborough A
 Sat 21 Middlesbrough A
 Sat 28 Coventry H

WHY NUGE IS DELUGED

It's probably something he twittered



A VIEW FROM THE STANDS
 with Saints fan Dan Kerins

YOU often have to wonder what footballers actually make of us, the fans.

We raise them up to be idols, praise the smallest gesture – and some even worship them.

Yet, for all the highs, it takes very little to suddenly be villified, cast out as a pariah and damned as a blot on humanity's pristine landscape.

The reason I say this is because of a certain David Nugent.

A player who did well at Preston, failed to make the grade at the top level yet seemed to find his feet somewhat last year, with Pompey.

He's a good, decent player – although the goal he scored for England didn't exactly cover him in glory.

Ahead of Saints' trip to Leicester, he 'tweeted' – as is the fashion among footballers these days –

about the upcoming match.

The post in full was: "I hate southampton! 3 points please! #dueawin#" (sic).

Fair enough, we all dislike certain things for no rational reason, and just because he's a footballer doesn't mean he shouldn't be allowed to express that – although correct use of capitals wouldn't go amiss.

What I can't quite fathom is the drive behind the post. Does he really hate Saints? Did being in Pompey rub off on him that much, or as a scouser is he upset about the ongoing cruise wars, or was he just on a wind-up for the hell of it?

As is to be expected, Nuge was quickly deluged with some pretty tasty return tweets – I can't repeat them here, but rest assured that Mary Whitehouse would be spinning in her grave if she saw them.

I often assume that

most footballers take a fairly pragmatic view of clubs and fans and ignore the abuse as best they can and dampen down the praise (with the odd exception, of course, Mr Bendtner).

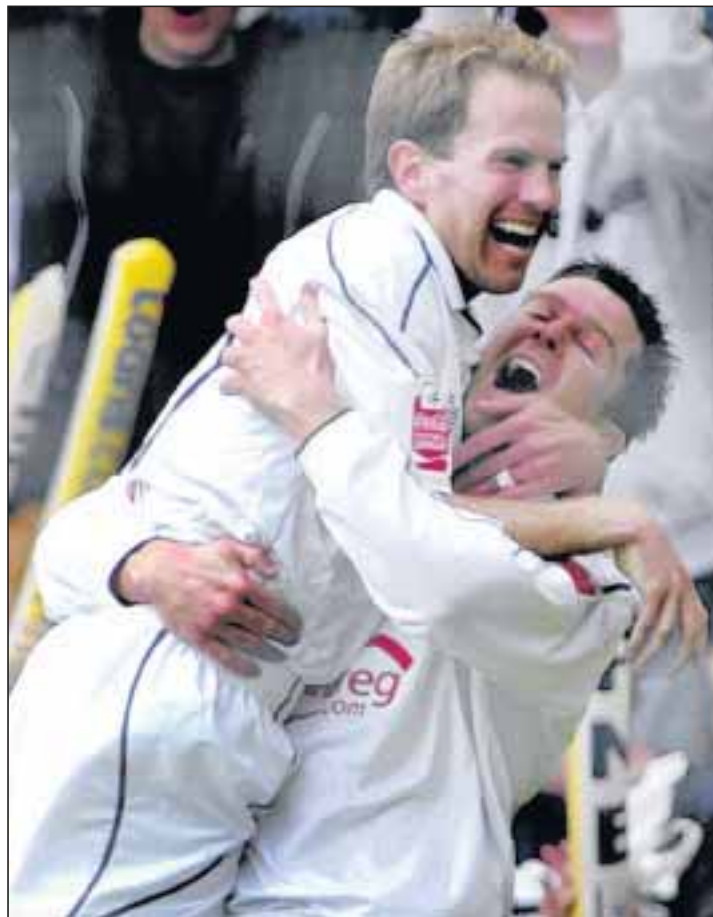
But perhaps they actually see us as something entirely different – entertainment. Wind us up and watch us go.

For those of you who use Twitter, I recommend reading what Joey Barton posts. I can't make my mind up if it's genius, hilariously unaware of itself or if he's just taking the proverbial.

Whatever it is, it's compelling.

Nugent's other posts don't quite have the same draw as Barton's (random examples: Going 4 an indian! and Getting dragged round nottingham!!!!) but it is still a window into the mind of the lesser spotted footballer.

Even if that mind does seem somewhat vacant.



IS HE JOKING? David Nugent, right, celebrating a goal.

	LA	LG	CA	CG	CSA	CSG
KELVIN DAVIS	4	0	0	0	228	0
BARTOSZ BIALKOWSKI	0	0	1	0	32(1)	0
TOMMY FORECAST	0	0	0	0	0	0
DANNY BUTTERFIELD	0	0	1	0	36(3)	0
FRAZER RICHARDSON	4	0	0	0	21(7)	0
DAN HARDING	4	0	0	0	91(3)	3
RYAN DICKSON	0	0	1	0	18(10)	1
BEN REEVES	0	0	0	0	0	0
JOSE FONTE	4	0	0	0	72	7
RADHI JAIDI	0	0	0	0	63(1)	4
AARON MARTIN	1	0	1	0	10(4)	0
DAN SEABORNE	3	0	1	0	33(15)	0

	LA	LG	CA	CG	CSA	CSG
STEVE DE RIDDER	0(4)	0	1	1	1(4)	1
RICHARD CHAPLOW	0(2)	0	1	1	41(8)	7
DEAN HAMMOND	4	1	0(1)	0	93(2)	11
JACK CORK	4	0	0	0	28(1)	0
MORGAN SCHNEIDERLIN	0(4)	0	1	0	92(19)	1
ADAM LALLANA	4	3	0(1)	0	129(19)	35
LEE HOLMES	0	0	1	0	16(14)	2
RICKIE LAMBERT	4	2	1	1	105(3)	57
LEE BARNARD	0	0	0	0	44(19)	24
GULY DO PRADO	4	1	1	0	31(12)	12
DAVID CONNOLLY	4	3	0	0	22(20)	14
JONATHAN FORTE	0	0	0(1)	1	2(9)	3

	LA	LG	CA	CG	CSA	CSG
RYAN DOBLE	0	0	0	0	0	0
DANNY FOX	0(2)	0	0	0	0(2)	0

KEY: LA: league appearances. LG: league goals. CA: cup appearances. CG: cup goals. CSA: career Saints appearances. CSG: career Saints goals.

Adam Rant



This week's big talking points
with **Adam Leitch**

Underdog Hendry ready to fire

ADAM Rant's snooker prediction for the upcoming season is a Stephen Hendry renaissance.

The seven-times world champion has slipped off the radar somewhat in recent years as a long barren spell has taken grip.

At the end of last season it looked as though Hendry was preparing to announce his retirement.

But, after apparently chatting it over with his wife in the summer, he

has decided to keep on playing.

To have been considering retirement shows the stage Hendry had reached – having achieved so much but with little motivation to just keep plugging away, getting beaten before the latter stages of tournaments.

He surely doesn't need the money anymore, and he's won enough titles to keep anybody happy.

Once you have stared retirement

in the face, though, have come to terms with where you are but having weighed up you want to go on, then so often it renews the vigour of top level sports people.

Hendry has taken so much pressure off himself.

He is now competing for him, because he wants to. If it doesn't work out again then he can just slope off without any regrets.

But now he is being purely driven

by what he wants to do, and returns to the start of his career with the feeling of the underdog trying to defy the odds, which winning a major tournament would now be for him.

Steve Davis, that other snooker great, did much the same and has found many years of success, relative anyway, at the stage of a career that would have seen most players long since hang up their cue.



HENDRY

SIMPLY THE BEST



SIMPLY THE BEST: Graeme Swann leads the applause after helping to complete a whitewash of India at The Oval.

YOU can surely find no higher praise for a sports team than to say it is hard to think of any department in which they can meaningfully get much better.

Those are words you seldom hear – not from a sportsperson, not from a manager or coach and not from a journalist.

Granted, you hear fans singing the praises of a team, or describing individuals blessed with limited ability but who have just put in a good performance as a 'genius.'

But from those looking

with a critical eye, it is very rare indeed.

Yet that is exactly the sentiments that Adam Rant finds himself expressing towards the England cricket team – and talking about words you don't expect, they are certainly ones you wouldn't have put much money on reading over the last couple of decades.

The praise is totally justified, though.

Andrew Strauss' team are the number one ranked Test side in the world.

The final step to reaching that pinnacle was to defeat the team who were top –

India – and they did it 4-0 in only the seventh ever Test match whitewash of a series of at least that size.

It is quite simply remarkable.

You could certainly argue that England have had a bit of luck to get there – key players seem to have got injured for the opposition at crucial times, big moments have swung England's way.

But you'll find that of any team that gets to the top.

However, you struggle to reach such a lofty position, and one that is earned over a period of time, without actually being the best and

probably earning your good fortune along the way.

Quite simply, England reign supreme at the moment.

Their batsmen are scoring heavily at crucial times.

So often in the past they have had players with impressive averages but who have scored their runs when games were already beyond winning. Now they score them under pressure.

The bowling has been hugely impressive.

They are such a cohesive unit, bowl so well together as well as individually.

In the field they are sharp and motivated.

Staying at number one is really going to test England – Pakistan in the UAE and a trip to Sri Lanka is a big ask.

These will provide them with very different conditions and then we will see how they adapt.

But what more could they have done in recent times?

Each and every time we have said they face a critical test of where they are, they pass with flying colours.

You have to hold your hands up and say they are simply the best about.

Murray's chance to shine

THE final Grand Slam tennis event of the year is upon us and it will be a really intriguing one.

Novak Djokovic's remarkable year is being threatened by an injury, Rafael Nadal looks desperately short of confidence and form, Roger Federer is proving inconsistent.

Surely this is the time for Andy Murray to step forward and claim a major trophy?

Most peg his best chances as coming at the US Open – he loves hard courts and seems to thrive in the US.

Murray is on a bit of form, having won in Cincinnati after a worrying first round loss in Montreal.

It's hard to imagine him getting a better chance.

Djokovic, who he defeated in the final at Cincinnati, is of course the man in form.

But that final was somewhat overshadowed by the Serbian having to retire injured.

He has been struggling with a shoulder

problem that is surely only being exacerbated by the amount of high intensity tennis he has played this year due to him being in such amazing form.

Nadal, fresh from burning a couple of fingers on a restaurant hot plate, looked a shadow of his normal self.

He appeared devoid of confidence and belief and, when you take away that belligerent baseline hitting from his game there is not a lot left.

Federer is at a stage in his career where the brilliance is still there and does still surface, but consistency is proving more of a problem.

And then there is Murray. Some people would say he is at the head of the also-rans but his time to change that has surely come.

It's hard to imagine him getting many better opportunities going into a tournament.



MURRAY

Premiership Spotlight

Did You Know?

Sir Alex Ferguson's trophy-laden career

St Mirren: Scottish First Division: 1976-77

Aberdeen
Scottish Premier Division: 1979-80, 1983-84, 1984-85.
Scottish Cup: 1982, 1983, 1984, 1986.
UEFA Cup Winners Cup: 1983.
UEFA Super Cup: 1983.

Manchester United
Premier League: 1992/93, 1993/94, 1995/96, 1996/97, 1998/99, 1999/2000, 2000/01, 2002/03, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09, 2010/11.
FA Cup: 1990, 1994, 1996, 1999, 2004.
League Cup: 1992, 2006, 2009, 2010.
FA Charity/ Community Shield: 1990 (Shared), 1993, 1994, 1996, 1997, 2003, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011.
UEFA Champions League: 1999, 2008.
Fifa Club World Cup: 2008.
UEFA Super Cup: 1991.
UEFA Cup Winners Cup: 1991.
Intercontinental Cup: 1999.

The second most successful manager in English football is Bob Paisley, who won 20 trophies in just ten seasons in charge at Liverpool.

Liverpool
 First Division: 1975/76, 1976/77, 1978/79, 1979/80, 1981/82, 1982/83.
European Cup: 1977, 1978, 1981.
UEFA Cup: 1976.
Football League Cup: 1981, 1982, 1983.
European Super Cup: 1977.
FA Charity Shield: 1974, 1976, 1977 (shared), 1979, 1980, 1982.

Champions League 2011/12 group stage draw

Group A: Bayern Munich, Villarreal, Manchester City, Napoli

Group B: Inter Milan, CSKA Moscow, Lille, Trabzonspor

Group C: Manchester United, Benfica, Basle, Otelul

Group D: Real Madrid, Lyon, Ajax, Dinamo Zagreb

Group E: Chelsea, Valencia, Bayer Leverkusen, Genk

Group F: Arsenal, Marseille, Olympiacos, Borussia Dortmund

Group G: Porto, Shakhtar Donetsk, Zenit St Petersburg, APOEL

Group H: Barcelona, AC Milan, BATE Borisov, Plzen
 The first round of fixtures will be played on September 13/14.

WHEN I was growing up, I wanted to visit all the top football grounds in the country.

Living as I did in Exeter, you could be cruel or cheeky and say I would never get to see them watching my local club.

Anyway, I still remember my first visit to Old Trafford.

It was November 1986 and a crowd of just over 36,000 watched Manchester United defeat Leicester 2-0.

It was Alex Ferguson's third home game in charge.

Almost a quarter of a century later, now knighted, and having won a mind-boggling 36 trophies in his near quarter of a century – plus one shared Charity Shield! –

Simon Carter

simon.carter@dailyecho.co.uk

SPORTS EDITOR

he is still there.

The last of a dying breed, we will never again see in English football one manager spending so long at one of our top clubs.

Many have tried to dethrone him as the undisputed top dog of the Premiership managerial scene, but only a few have done so – and then only sporadically.

The continuity he has helped to instil at Old Trafford, make no mistake, is a central factor in a run unprecedented in English football history.

Before that run, though, there existed a very different Manchester United Football Club to the one we see today.

Two years after my first game at Old Trafford, a United-supporting friend persuaded me to go with him to watch the opening game of the 1988/89 season.

In what now seems truly remarkable looking back on it, we just turned up on the day and paid to stand on the legendary

Stretford End.

That was it. No need to visit any ticket offices, online booking systems obviously didn't exist back then, no need to buy a season ticket ... just rock up on the day and pay at the turnstiles.

We watched a turgid 0-0 draw with Queens Park Rangers, never for one second imagining that in years to come United would be regularly watched by crowds of over 70,000.

That was the season United finished 11th, below Millwall, in the old First Division.

They went nine top flight games without a win in the autumn, albeit drawing eight of them, and finished

t h e

STILL

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK:
 Danny Welbeck.

season with two wins in 11 matches.

Famously, it was said that had United lost at Nottingham Forest in the third round of the FA Cup then Ferguson would have been sacked.

He was into his second full season and had not remotely looked like winning any silverware.

As it was, Lee Martin's goal gave United an FA Cup final replay success against Crystal Palace a few months later and the Ferguson dynasty was fully up and running.

Twelve months later United won the European Cup Winner's Cup, and the rest – yawn – is history.

I'll be honest with you here. I have had discussions with a United-supporting friend as to who the greatest manager in English football history is, and I haven't chosen Sir Alex Ferguson.

Despite Fergie's plethora of trophies at Old Trafford, I maintain his best achievement as a manager was winning the Scottish Premier League title with a non Old Firm club, and then winning a European trophy with totally unfashionable Aberdeen as well.

Instead, Brian Clough got my vote –

SEE MONDAY'S ECHO FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S FOOTBALL NEWS

Premiership Spotlight



TOP DOG



STICKING TO HIS PRINCIPLES: Sir Alex Ferguson.



NEW KID ON THE BLOCK: Tom Cleverley.

top flight titles with two provincial clubs who had never before won the Football League, followed by back-to-back European Cups with Nottingham Forest.

He won the first European Cup two years after guiding Forest out of the old Second Division. Two years!

And Clough never criticised referees either, unlike Ferguson, instead going out of his way to make things easy for them.

Anyway, this article isn't about Brian Clough, it's about Ferguson.

And watching United's 3-0

Premiership win over Tottenham earlier this week, you can't have anything but admiration for the way he has always stuck to his footballing principles.

The maturity and intelligence of United's performance will have been perturbing for their closest rivals.

The crucial statistic was that, following injuries to Rio Ferdinand and Nemanja Vidic, Ferguson fielded the second-youngest United side in Premier League history, with an average age of 23 years and one month.

As such, it was a starting line-up which, barring Wayne Rooney, contained no fancy big-name stars. Not in the league of Bryan Robson, Eric Cantona, David Beckham, Paul

Scholes, Ryan Giggs and Cristiano Ronaldo, all players who have brought glitter to United's glorious past.

That is why the rest should be worried and why Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger, in particular, should take note.

For years now Wenger has been talking up his kids. He has been purring at their promise and, to be fair, delighting the neutrals with their flair.

Yet Arsenal have gone six years without winning a trophy. Increasingly, they have become a team with youth on their side but one lacking balance and directness.

Attractive football is important to Ferguson too. It is part of the late Sir Matt Busby's legacy at Old Trafford. But it is not everything. Beauty and brilliance without baubles is not Ferguson's way.

Winning comes first for Ferguson. His genius lies in his ability as he hurtles towards 70 to communicate his passion and his enduring modernity to players half a century his junior.

It is why he delighted in the performance of 20-year-old Welbeck and admitted that with seven strikers all pushing for selection: "It's going to be a right problem for me."

It is the sort of problem Premier League managers dream about.

Much has been made this week of his new wave of youngsters – Welbeck, Cleverley, Smalling, Jones – but no one should really be surprised.

Cajoled

Ferguson has always promoted youth whenever he can.

Again, I turn the clock back to the late 1980s where he was giving young lads such as Russell Beardsmore, Lee Sharpe, Mark Robins and Lee Martin a chance, even when he was under pressure.

Let's we forget, it was Ferguson who gambled on a 17-year-old lad called Ryan Giggs back in 1991.

And it was Ferguson who, a few years later, nurtured, cajoled and brought through David Beckham, Paul Scholes, Nicky Butt and Gary and Phil Neville, most of whom have gone down as Old Trafford legends.

His eye for young international talent is also fantastic, as proved by the signings of Cristiano Ronaldo, then 18, in 2003 and Javier Hernandez last year.

Yes, the name 'Manchester United' is a fantastic bargaining tool for any manager to have up his sleeve, but players all around the world know Ferguson will always give youth a chance.

And, yes, Ferguson has spent millions on new players down the years, but so have clubs like Arsenal, Liverpool and Newcastle, who have won nothing like the trophies that United have garnered.

No matter which football team you support, anyone who likes watching football played the right way should have enjoyed United's second goal against Tottenham.

Welbeck's back-heel to set up Anderson showed beautiful vision.

It was truly a champagne moment and one to be celebrated as it was an English player who produced it.

And no one would have been happier than Ferguson.

BOOK of the WEEK

Rafa: My Story
By Rafael Nadal with John Carlin

Sportsbookofthemonth.com price: £9.99, saving 50% on rrp

IT SEEMS incredible that less than a decade ago Rafael Nadal claimed his first ATP victory at the age of just 15.

He secured his first Grand Slam title (the French Open) aged 19.

In the intervening years, the man from Majorca has been a permanent fixture on the men's tennis circuit, becoming world number one in 2008.

Born and brought up in the small Majorcan town of Manacor, surrounded by a family of successful sportsmen, Nadal first started playing tennis when he was three.

His life has been completely dominated by tennis and, not surprisingly, the game has moulded his character.

Here is a supremely athletic, determined young man who, if he can avoid injury, could become the greatest player of all time.

Much is known of his on-court achievements, but this fascinating biography (written in conjunction with the Spaniard by the award-winning John Carlin) comes into its own when presenting the reader with a finely-illustrated, well-observed backdrop to Nadal's life.

Carlin has been given unfettered access to Nadal's hinterland, a feature which adds

hitherto uncharted depth to what some perceive to be a rather one-dimensional character.

It also highlights the extent to which Nadal has been supported by

his family from the time he first picked up a tennis racquet.

In our increasingly suspicious world, some consider the influence of Nadal's uncle Tony on his career to border on the sinister, though nothing could be further from the truth.

In fact, the family unit is still an integral part of Spanish life and no one bats an eyelid when family members help each other.

It's a refreshing throwback to an earlier age, one now sadly passed in Britain.

No matter.

Armed with an amazing natural ability and nurtured by a supportive family, Rafa Nadal has made it to the very top of his profession in double-quick time.

If only he stops biting all of those trophies he accumulates, he's likely to stay there for some time to come.

The Sports Pink has teamed up with Sports Book of the Month & have a copy of *Rafa: My Story* to give away.

To win this week's sports book, go to sportsbookofthemonth.com and answer the following question:

In what year did Rafa Nadal first win the Australian Open?

Answers must be received no later than September 2, 2011.



PORTSMOUTH 2011/12

August

6 Middlesbrough (A)	D 2-2
Norris, Varney	
9 Barnet (H, CC)	L 0-1
13 Brighton (H)	L 0-1
16 Reading (H)	W 1-0
Kitson	
20 Bristol City (A)	D 0-0
27 Cardiff (H)	D 1-1
Kanu	

September

10 West Ham	(A)
17 Hull	(A)
24 Blackpool	(H)
27 Peterborough	(H)

October

1 Leeds	(A)
15 Barnsley	(H)
18 Ipswich	(A)
22 Doncaster	(H)
29 Derby	(A)

November

1 Crystal Palace	(A)
5 Nottm Forest	(H)
19 Watford	(A)
26 Leicester	(H)
29 Birmingham	(A)

December

3 Coventry	(H)
10 Burnley	(A)
17 Southampton	(H)
26 Millwall	(A)
31 Leicester	(A)

January

2 Watford	(H)
14 West Ham	(H)
21 Cardiff	(A)
31 Peterborough	(A)

February

4 Hull	(H)
11 Blackpool	(A)
14 Ipswich	(H)
18 Barnsley	(A)
25 Leeds	(H)

March

3 Middlesbrough	(H)
6 Reading	(A)
10 Brighton	(A)
17 Bristol City	(H)
20 Birmingham	(H)
24 Coventry	(A)
31 Burnley	(H)

April

7 Southampton	(A)
9 Millwall	(H)
14 Doncaster	(A)
17 Crystal Palace	(H)
21 Derby	(H)
28 Nottm Forest	(A)

Cherries/Pompey Spotlight

POINT IN THE KAN

POMPEY 1 CARDIFF 1

NWANKWO Kanu came off the bench to hit a late equaliser with his first meaningful contribution for Portsmouth in their with Cardiff.

The goal from Kanu, who scored against the same opponents in the 2008 FA Cup final, was the least they deserved after a stirring second-half performance.

Both sides struggled to create any clear openings in the early exchanges.

The first chance fell to Cardiff's Darcy Blake – the only change from last week's draw with Burnley after his impressive showing in the Carling Cup – but his left-footed drive from Craig Conway's cross hit the post.

The home side were inches away from going ahead after 22 minutes through Joel Ward – one of two changes from last week's stalemate with Bristol City. His rasping effort beat David Marshall in the Cardiff goal but crashed back off the bar.

It was Cardiff's Rob Earnshaw who forced the first save of the afternoon on 28 minutes when he advanced into the area but Jamie Ashdown was out quickly and made a wonderful save to tip the effort wide.

The Wales international should have broken the deadlock two minutes later when he latched onto the ball after Ward's slip, but he fired wide from close range.

Steve Cotterill's side were agonisingly close to taking the lead within two minutes of the restart. Liam

Lawrence rolled the ball into the path of Greg Halford but his thunderous 25-yard effort bounced back off the post to safety with Marshall well beaten.

Cardiff pressed forward and created a chance of their own after 56 minutes when Don Cowie crossed for Peter Whittingham but he could only direct his header over the bar.

But it was Portsmouth who looked more likely to score as the game went into the later stages. First, Halford met a corner from Lawrence but his header was cleared off the line by Earnshaw on 63 minutes. A mass goalmouth scramble followed but Pompey could not force the ball home despite the best efforts of Dave Kitson, who saw his shot parried by Marshall.

Minutes later, Portsmouth looked certain to score. David Norris headed a Halford throw-in into the path of Benjani, but the substitute was thwarted by a crucial last-ditch tackle from Whittingham.

The Bluebirds made them pay with 20 minutes to go when Andrew Taylor gave Cardiff the lead. The defender's overlapping run was found by an inch-perfect pass from Conway and he drilled the ball into the bottom corner.

But Portsmouth deservedly hit back with ten minutes remaining, when Kanu stooped to head in Tal Ben-Haim's cross. The Nigerian had been on the pitch for only five minutes.

Portsmouth poured forward to force a winner and went close in stoppage time but Anthony Gerrard twice blocked shots from Kitson.



JOEL WARD: Went close for Pompey in the first half.

Cotterill: We could be 100 per cent

PORTSMOUTH manager Steve Cotterill believes his side can count themselves unlucky not to be in the same position as Saints with maximum points at the start of today's action.

He feels his side have not had the rub of the green only taking five points from their four games before today's clash with Cardiff.

He told www.portsmouthfc.co.uk: "We got an excellent point at Middlesbrough 2-2 and didn't deserve to lose to Brighton."

"We beat Reading 1-0 and deserved to, with our best performance of the season so far, and against Bristol City 0-0 we were the side who created the clear-cut chances."

"We could easily be sat here on maximum points."

The Bluebirds were boosted ahead of the game by the news winger Peter Whittingham has signed a contract extension to keep him at the club until summer 2014.

● This week's Sunday games see Birmingham, who advanced to the Europa League group stage in mid-week with a 3-0 win over Nacional, return to domestic action with a trip to third-bottom Watford, while Nottingham Forest host West Ham.



STEVE COTTERILL

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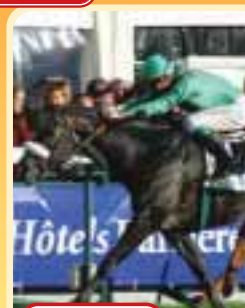


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NEWMARKET
Holidays



Cherries/Pompey Spotlight

Misery for Cherries on home front

WALSALL striker Ryan Jarvis netted twice to condemn Cherries to a fourth defeat on the trot, heaping more early-season misery on the Seward Stadium faithful.

Jarvis opened the scoring with a hotly-disputed penalty after Liam Feeney had been judged to have handled a Mat Sadler cross in the 15th minute, **writes NEIL PERRETT.**

And the frontman doubled the visitors' lead with a near-post header after Cherries had failed to deal with a Kevan Hurst corner ten minutes into the second half.

Although Cherries made an encouraging start and could have scored twice inside the opening three minutes, they were found wanting for long periods, especially during the second half.

New signing Shaun MacDonald was given the green light to make his Cherries debut after his international clearance came through on the eve of the match.

And the former Swansea midfielder almost scored with his first touch, his side-footed effort follow-

CHERRIES 0 WALSALL 2

ing a Scott Malone corner cleared off the line by Darryl Westlake.

Steve Lovell fired inches past the post as Cherries' bright start continued before disaster struck when Walsall controversially opened the scoring following their first attack.

Referee Pat Miller infuriated Cherries when he pointed to the penalty spot after Mat Sadler's cross had struck the arm of Liam Feeney, the offence clearly unintentional.

However, Miller deemed otherwise and Jarvis showed Cherries no mercy when he sent Darryl Flahavan the wrong way to make it 1-0, against the run of play.

Cherries continued to fashion chances, with Pugh heading wide following a Nathan Byrne cross and Adam Barrett seeing his effort well saved by David Grof.

A swift counter-attack by the Saddlers ended with Shaun Cooper blocking a Kevan Hurst piledriver before Arter's stinging shot was beaten away by Grof.

Walsall doubled their lead ten



STEVE LOVELL: Went close for Cherries.

minutes into the second half when Jarvis climbed at the near post to glance Hurst's corner into the net.

As the visitors grew in confidence, Flahavan twice saved from Hurst, while Cherries offered precious little during the second period.

Cherries: Flahavan, Byrne, Barrett, Cooper, Malone (Purches, 78), Feeney, Arter, MacDonald, Pugh, Taylor

(Stockley, 61), Lovell (Molesley, 77).
Unused subs: Baudry, Jalal (g/k).
Booked: Flahavan.

Saddlers: Grof, Westlake, Butler, Smith, Sadler, Gnackpa (Nicholls, 63), Chambers, Taundry, Hurst, Jarvis (Beevers, 85), Grigg.

Unused subs: Lancashire, Paterson, Peterlin.

Referee: Pat Miller (Bedfordshire).

Attendance: 5,092 (including 385 away supporters).

CHERRIES 2011/12

August

6 Charlton (A)L 0-3
9 Dagenham (H, CC) ...W 5-0
Taylor 2, Pugh, Cooper, Feeney
13 Sheff Wed (H)W 2-0
Barrett, Arter
16 Stevenage (H)L 1-3
Arter
20 Carlisle (A)L 1-2
Arter (pen)
27 Walsall (H)L 0-2

September

3 Notts County(A)
10 Chesterfield(H)
13 Leyton Orient(A)
17 Exeter(A)
24 Hartlepool(H)

October

1 Tranmere(A)
8 Rochdale(H)
15 MK Dons(A)
22 Bury(H)
25 Colchester(A)
29 Preston(A)

November

5 Scunthorpe(H)
19 Wycombe(A)
26 Oldham(H)

December

10 Huddersfield(A)
17 Sheff Utd(H)
26 Brentford(A)
31 Yeovil(A)

January

2 Wycombe(H)
7 Walsall(A)
14 Notts County(H)
21 Tranmere(H)
28 Chesterfield(A)

February

4 Exeter(H)
11 Hartlepool(A)
14 Leyton Orient(H)
18 Rochdale(A)
25 MK Dons(H)

March

3 Charlton(H)
6 Stevenage(A)
10 Sheff Wed(A)
17 Carlisle(H)
20 Brentford(H)
24 Oldham(A)
31 Yeovil(H)

April

7 Sheff Utd(A)
9 Huddersfield(H)
14 Bury(A)
21 Colchester(H)
28 Scunthorpe(A)

May

5 Preston(H)

Shaun is out to show his class

NEW signing Shaun MacDonald is determined to prove his class for Cherries after quitting his hometown club for a fresh start in Dorset.

The Welshman penned a two-year contract at Seward Stadium after Cherries and Swansea City struck an initial £80,000 deal, which will also include further add-ons and a sell-on clause.

A product of the Swans youth system, MacDonald had been with the Premier League newcomers since the age of eight.

But with his opportunities limited following his full debut as a 17-year-old, the central midfielder continued his education with loan spells at Yeovil Town.

MacDonald's performances in League One persuaded Cherries boss Lee Bradbury to make a move and, after taking his time to consider the offer, the 23-year-old signed on Thursday night.

The capture of the former Wales under-21 captain, who also has a full cap for his country, came as a boost for Cherries after the exits of Danny Hollands and Anton Robinson.

MacDonald, who was in line to make his first appearance at home against Walsall this afternoon (3pm) pending international clearance, admitted it was hard to walk away from Swansea.

But he is now focused on life with Cherries and is keen to make a big impression.

He told *The Bournemouth Echo*: "I wasn't really given a good enough chance at Swansea so when this opportunity came, it was one I took for my career."

"I came through the youth system

at Swansea and had been there since I was eight, so it was a massive step, not just in football but in my life.

"It is the first time I have been away and it is going to be a challenge.

"It is one I am looking forward to.

"I didn't want to rush into anything and wanted to think about everything.

"It has been a stressful week, to be honest, making quite a big decision on what to do.



SEE PAGE 48 FOR ALL TODAY'S LEAGUE ONE RESULTS

SOUTHERN
Daily Echo

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RESULTS



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2011
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**Saturday,
3 September
or Sunday
4 September
2011**

An incident in a Plymouth v Southampton match

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closing time Monday
Southern Daily Echo
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Dorset Echo
Closing time Monday

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Non-league Action

SUPER SPITFIRES

Whites slip to home loss

ECSTATIC Eastleigh stormed to their first win of the Blue Square Bet South season, recovering from a goal down to beat Dorchester Town 3-1 at the Avenue Stadium last night.

The one change to the Spitfires' starting line-up saw Jordace Holder-Spooner come in for ankle injury victim Ross Bottomley, who could be out for three weeks.

Dorchester's starting eleven contained Ryan Moss, Chris Flood and Ashley Nicholls, who had all previously played for Eastleigh, while Magpies defender Nathan Pephrah-Ann had a pre-season trial with the Spitfires after parting company with Sholing.

The first half from an Eastleigh perspective was very poor and they failed to create a single chance of note.

Dorchester led in the 34th minute when former Bashley striker Moss

converted a cross from Steve Devlin.

It was a generally uninspiring first half overall, however, with Dorchester restricted to just the occasional threat.

Ex-Salisbury man Flood had a shot saved and was denied by an important interception from Spitfires skipper Tom Jordan, while Nicholls sent a couple of efforts narrowly off target.

Following a half-time dressing down from manager Ian Baird, Eastleigh emerged a different side after the break and stunned the Magpies with two goals in quick succession.

They equalised on 54 minutes when Holder-Spooner looked to have taken the ball too wide, but managed to smash it into the top corner.

Five minutes later White broke and fired Eastleigh ahead and the



TWO GOALS:
Andrew White

ex-Gillingham striker made sure of victory on 83 minutes, swivelling and finding the bottom corner.

"If Whitey hadn't put that one away he'd have been slated because the easiest ball was square to Jamie Slabber, who'd already had one cleared off the line," said Baird.

"We were lucky to go in just one down at half-time," the boss admitted. "The eleven who started looked like they'd taken

sleeping tablets.

"But it was the proverbial game of two halves. We were absolutely awful in the first half - and that's being kind!

"But we had a few choice words at half-time and the pace we've got in

the side really showed in the second half. We stuck the ball in behind Dorchester, as we should have done earlier, and got our reward."

It's the fifth year running Eastleigh have tasted league victory at the Avenue Stadium and Baird remains unbeaten there as a manager.

Having banked four points from their last two games, the fast improving Spitfires hope to boost their account at home to Weston-super-Mare on Monday (3pm).

Dorchester boss Ashley Vickers, a former Spitfires defender, labelled all three visiting goals "sloppy" and then warned his players they must improve or risk being shown the door.

"I'm happy with the squad that I've got, I'm happy with their endeavour and I'm happy to work with them week in, week out," he said. "But they have got to learn.

"And, if they don't learn, then they won't play and I'll get rid of them.

Weston-s-Mare 2
Salisbury City 0

IT WAS a case of after the Lord Mayor's show for the Whites as they crashed to a 2-0 defeat at Weston-super-Mare.

A poor first-half from both sides ended even on chances after Huxley nearly gave his side the lead in the first minute, Conor Gough making a great save from a firm rise.

On 20 minutes Darrell Clarke went through the middle to the edge of the box but his left-foot finish was pushed aside by home keeper Lloyd Irish.

The second period started with Weston's Kane Ingram forcing Gough into a good save but on 59 minutes the same player was brought down in the box by Luke Riddick as Nat

PEPPERELL blasted the ball home.

On 63 minutes Salisbury shot a penalty shout of their own when Jake Reid appeared to be bundled over the area but the referee waved away appeals and five minutes later one of the best moves of the game saw Weston's Dale

Grubb fire just wide.

Weston then made two inspired substitutions and the dangerous Kabba Sahr put an effort the wrong side of the upright on 75 minutes but seconds before the final whistle KABBA got the second goal for Weston to complete the Whites' misery.

Newport rub salt into Romsey's wounds

**Romsey Town 1
Newport IoW 3**
A BAD week for Romsey Town culminated in a second defeat in five days in the Sydenhams Premier Division.

After losing a thrilling battle 6-5 at Moneyfields on Tuesday, Wayne Mew's side were beaten 3-1 by Newport IoW on home soil.

The Islanders started the better with skilful, young winger John McKie looking particularly lively.

After a couple of near misses, McKie was blocked out by Town keeper Steve Hollick with ten minutes gone.

Romsey - deprived of last season's top scorer Simon De'Ath, who was working away - were concerned when striker Ben White took an early knock.

He was still limping when a golden chance came his way after Macs Sampays' initial shot had been blocked, but his low effort was cleared off the line.

Newport continued to look the sharper, but it was Romsey who took a 15th minute lead when Jake Long teed up a sweet cross from the left by-line for SAMPAYS to nod home at the far post.

That goal injected life into Romsey, who began troubling the Port defence with their pace and movement.

White, who looked to have run off his knock,

had a shot deflected over as Town pressed for a second.

But on 32 minutes they were hit by an equaliser when dangerman McKie raced on to Mark Augustus's terrific cross-field ball and tucked his shot under keeper Hollick. Half-time: Romsey Town 1 Newport IoW 1

Romsey should have reclaimed the lead in the opening moments of the second half but, having turned sweetly in the area, White dragged his shot just wide.

Instead it was Newport who took the game by the scruff of the neck, scoring twice in four minutes.

McKie, who was giving fullback Chris Hall a torrid time, forced a corner which he took himself and skipper DARREN POWELL forced the ball home at the second attempt.

And it got worse for the home side when the razor-sharp McKie intercepted a weak back-header and lofted his shot over Hollick.

McKie earned a well deserved rest on 70 minutes, making way for sub Matt Burford who immediately tested Hollick with a firmly struck shot.

Romsey kept going and, from one flowing move, Chris Morris headed down for Ryan Long, who slid in with a shot but was foiled by Port keeper Cameron Farley.

Totton crash to their first defeat

**Evo-Stik Southern League - Premier Div
Leamington 2 AFC Totton 1**

AFC Totton suffered their first defeat of the season despite leading at the interval.

Facing a strong wind during the first half, the Stags were put under early pressure by the home side but their defence coped well with the home side's powerful forwards.

It was, however, Totton who took the lead after 13 minutes when Mike

Gosney broke through the centre before playing the ball wide to JONATHAN DAVIES. The lively winger then drilled home his low shot despite Jamie Hood's last-ditch effort to clear off the line.

Almost immediately following the goal, Tom Baddeley became the first Totton player to be cautioned after fouling Alex Taylor.

Four minutes later he was followed into the referee's notebook by Michael Charles for his challenge

on Leamington skipper Lee Downes.

After 39 minutes a good move by the home side saw Jacob Blyth link well with Tom Berwick before a brilliant last-ditch tackle by Baddeley on Berwick.

**HT: Leamington 0
AFC Totton 1**

The second half saw Leamington push forward for an equaliser and it came just before the hour mark when JACOB BLYTH's run towards goal was adjudged to have been impeded by Ian Baddeley.

The striker then got to his feet and sent Grant Porter the wrong way from the penalty spot, the goal being the first against Totton in 414 minutes of play.

Eight minutes later the Stags found themselves behind for the first time in a match this season when Berwick's cross was headed across goal and into the net by BLYTH.

Despite the defeat Totton they still lead the division going into their important home Bank Holiday Monday clash with Weymouth.

Stags boss sees class gulf



LOOKING at AFC Totton's whirlwind start to the season, you could be forgiven for thinking there is little difference between the Southern Premier and Division One South & West.

But Stags boss Stuart Ritchie insists there IS a major gulf in class even though his newly-promoted troops have taken the top division by storm, winning their first four games with 15 goals scored and none conceded.

"The Premier Division is definitely better quality," he said. "The players are technically better and physically stronger. They've got more know-how and the teams are better organised."

Successful wins over Division One Central champions Arlesey Town (2-0 away), Oxford City (6-0 home), Swindon Supermarine

(4-0 home) and Hemel Hempstead (3-0 away) left the Stags flying high at the top of the table ahead of today's trip to Leamington.

Their impressive result at Hemel on Tuesday, courtesy of a hat-trick by Michael Charles (pictured), meant they boasted the division's last remaining 100 per cent record following Brackley Town's 2-0 demise at Arlesey.

It's a better start than Ritchie dared dream of, but he reckons the Stags have more than earned their top-flight stripes after three exceptional seasons as a Division One South & West club.

"Having finished third, second and first over the last three sea-

sons we fully deserved to go up," he said.

"And it's not been an easy start for us either.

"Arlesey also came up as champions, Swindon Supermarine have been in this league a few years now and Oxford City are something like fourth or fifth favourites to win it.

"We haven't changed our approach in this division. We've gone in and attacked games like we always do.

"The challenge is there for all our players to produce and, at the moment, they are producing.

"I'm really pleased with how we've started the season, but it's early days yet," he warned. "There's a long way to go..."

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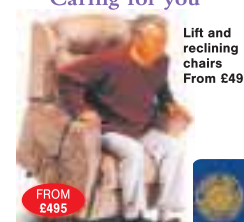
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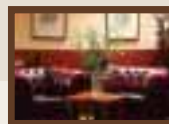
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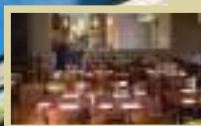
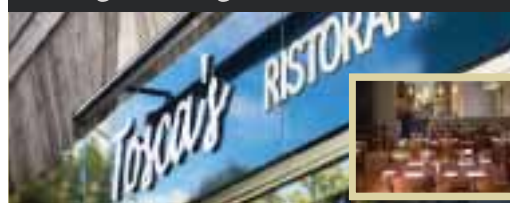
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Premiership Spotlight



English backed for Euro success

SPORTS BETTING

BOOKMAKERS believe the Premier League clubs fared reasonably well in this season's Champions League draw and Betfred are offering 15/8 for an English team to lift the trophy.

William Hill feel it is an odds-on chance at 10/11 that at least one of the quartet will reach the final, while punters can get 6/1 for an all-British decider and 33/1 Manchester rivals City and United meet in Munich next May.

"The Brits look to have a very strong hand this season but will eventually have to find a way of dealing with the Barca problem if one of them is to lift the trophy," said Hill's spokesman Graham Sharpe.

Barcelona are, in fact, a top-priced 2/1 to retain their crown as champions of Europe, while Spanish rivals Real Madrid are then 5/1, but English clubs fill four of the next five places in the market.

Coral have Manchester United at 13/2, Chelsea 9/1, Manchester City 16/1 and Arsenal 20/1 after the Gunners safely negotiated a tricky qualifier against Udinese.

"We've cut Manchester United's outright odds after a group draw that couldn't have been any better had Sir Alex Ferguson picked their opponents himself, while Arsenal and Chelsea should be happy enough with the hands they've been dealt," said Coral's David Stevens.

"Things could also have been trickier for Manchester City's Champions League debut, and having avoided the likes of Barcelona and AC Milan, the odds suggest they too will progress to the knock-out stage."

In the Premier League this weekend, Manchester United have won six of their last seven meetings with Arsenal at Old Trafford and can enhance that record on Sunday, while Wayne Rooney appeals as the first scorer having netted in three of those victories.

● Andy Murray is available at 5/1 with Blue Square to follow up last week's Cincinnati success by finally breaking his grand slam duck at the US Open, with Novak Djokovic 11/8 favourite for Flushing Meadows success.

Rafael Nadal is as big as 9/2 with VC for New York glory, while those who think Roger Federer can turn back the clock can get 13/2 at Paddy Power for the Swiss ace.

Serena Williams heads the betting on the women's singles list at 6/4 with Betfred, followed by Maria Sharapova at 6/1, while impressive Wimbledon winner Petra Kvitová can be backed at 12/1 in places.

UNITED EYE FURTHER FAR EAST EXPANSION

THE Premiership's love affair with making money took a new twist this week.

Manchester United have secured a "ground-breaking" £40m sponsorship deal with DHL for their training kit.

On a good day for the club's commercial department, they were also able to unveil a more modest partnership with leading mobile telecommunications provider Beeline to cover Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos.

That was followed by Sir Alex Ferguson confirming Vietnam will be added to the club's list of potential Far East tour destinations.

"We have been to most parts of the Far East over the years," reflected Ferguson.

"People have said we must go to Vietnam. I am sure there will be an opportunity for us."

£100M BARRIER

While United's 'territory specific' approach to commercial deals has been established for some time, leading to them becoming the first club to break through the £100m barrier in that sector alone when their results are announced later this year, it is the DHL deal which shows how valuable the club has become as a sponsorship vehicle.

The logistics company are paying roughly half the sum Aon invested to put their names on United's shirts even though European games – the only regular occasion on which the wider media are admitted to Carrington for training – are not included.

Indeed, at £10m-a-year, it is exceeded by only Arsenal, Liverpool and Chelsea, plus Manchester City's far more complicated tie-up with Etihad Airlines, for their matchday kit.

Main sponsors Aon are believed to have been made fully aware of negotiations to prevent any disquiet and United's players wore the new training kit in their warm-up ahead of this week's Premier League encounter with Tottenham at Old Trafford.

"This deal breaks new ground in the English game," said United chief executive David Gill.

Commercial director Richard Arnold went further.

"The world's number one game is football," he said.

"Manchester United is the number one club and we are offering the number one marketing platform to fantastic partners."

And, while DHL, Aon and shirt manufacturers Nike are now United's most visible partners, Arnold confirmed that given the ongoing turbulence in financial markets, the Far East, with its estimated

Evra ready to help United's young guns



PATRICE Evra will be happy to help Manchester United's young guns when they eventually start to misfire.

Sir Alex Ferguson has never thought of age as being a barrier to United's senior ranks.

However, the Red Devils chief has caught most observers on the hop this season by fielding half a dozen at a time during his side's opening three matches.

Ferguson's faith has been rewarded with the Community Shield and six points so far and despite Arsenal's Champions League win in midweek, United will be heavy favourites to make it three Premier League triumphs on the trot at Old Trafford on Sunday.

The results emphasise how much work United have put into their youth structures, which Evra, pictured above (right of picture), is not convinced they always get credit for.

"People talk about the academy of a lot of clubs but they didn't say enough about

Manchester United," he said.

"United is a big club, with a lot of pressure. But they are never scared to put young players into the team.

"It is just unbelievable. They bring a lot of energy and keep the team young.

"But it is really important for the experienced players to help them because there will be some difficult moments.

"It is one thing playing for Manchester United, the key is to keep going. Manchester United has to stay at the same level."

They have done a pretty good job of that over the past two decades, during which time they have collected 12 titles, two Champions League final wins and countless other honours.

For most of that time they were in direct competition with Arsenal.

No longer it seems. The departures of Cesc Fabregas and Samir Nasri have left obvious

holes in the Gunners ranks which manager Arsene Wenger has, thus far, failed to fill.

Evra has been critical of Arsenal in the past. For now though, he is playing the diplomat.

"Arsenal are still a big team," he said.

"They have had players leaving but that is not my business. My business is Manchester United.

"We just have to respect them and concentrate on ourselves."

Rio Ferdinand will hope to play some part after discovering his hamstring injury was not as serious as initially feared.

Darren Fletcher could be involved too after completing 90 minutes for the reserves in their six-goal hammering of Swansea last night, although Antonio Valencia again missed out even though Ferguson has previously suggested the Ecuador winger is ready to hit the comeback trail after an ankle injury suffered at Copa America.

190m United supporters, is going to become even more important.

"Many economies in that part of the world have been largely undented from the impact of the credit crunch," he said.

"Asia has gone from strength to strength in both capital and consumption-based growth.

"Given that situation and the fact such a huge proportion of our fans are based in Asia, it will continue to be a huge part of our business going forward."

It is claimed by United that 16m of Vietnam's 89m population are sup-

porters.

Clearly, the vast majority will never get anywhere near Old Trafford, hence the eagerness with which fans lap up the opportunity to have match information and post-game interviews delivered to their mobiles – which, according to Beeline executives, are viewed as a status symbol in themselves.

For Ferguson, none of this comes as a shock.

He has seen at first hand the frenzy United are capable of creating, which explains why the Glazer family appear intent on floating part of

the club in Singapore later this year.

"It is the impact of football and the advent of satellite television," he said.

"It has enabled matches to be shown across the world.

"We were told by the Premier League last week that its product is sold in 212 countries. I didn't even know there were that many.

"In Britain support comes through tradition, from fathers and grandfathers. In the Far East it is a new thing.

"The Premier League is attractive and people want to support a team."

TODAY'S PREMIER LEAGUE RESULTS - SEE BACK PAGE

Non-league Football

Record-breakers out to extend unbeaten run



JUST ITCHEN TO GET STARTED ...

ITCHEN College's 1st XI footballers start the new Hampshire Colleges' season with the aim of extending an unbeaten league record which is surely the longest in local league football.

The last time the college's 1st XI team, pictured above, lost a league match was in February 2008, more than three and a half years and about 60 matches ago, **writes MIKE VIMPANY.**

But a number of key players from last year's squad have now left the college, and Itchen will need to build a new 1st XI team without the likes of Sholing regulars Mike Carter and Nick Watts. Other influential players no longer at the college include Dan Mason, Fred Smart, Jamie Craven and Breon Graham.

Last year the Itchen 1st XI team smashed league records by winning

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

their third consecutive league title. League officials have since confirmed that this is the first time ever that a college has won three consecutive 1st XI championships. Four colleges have previously recorded two successive championships, but never before has a college managed three on the trot.

The 1st XI league title was one part of an unprecedented triple, with Itchen also winning the 1st XI Hampshire Cup and the Hampshire six-a-side championship. It was the first time that this clean sweep has ever been achieved in the long history of the Hampshire Schools' and Colleges' Football Association.

In fact, the Bitterne-based college can boast a highly impressive 'triple of triples', which underlines the strength of football within Itchen's well-established Academy of Sport.

A triple of a different kind was achieved with an Itchen 'clean sweep' of league championship wins in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd XI leagues. This was the second successive year that Itchen had achieved this remarkable hat-trick of league titles. Previously, this feat had been achieved just once – back in 1996.

Not to be outdone, the Itchen ladies' football team achieved their own triple. In a year that saw the side reach the final of the British Colleges' national cup, the ladies' team won the Hampshire Colleges' 11-a-side championship, the Hampshire Colleges' six-a-side tournament and the Hampshire 'Super -7s' tournament.

The Hampshire Colleges' league programme kicks off on Wednesday, September 14, with the stand-out fixture on the opening day being Brockenhurst College's home game against Peter Symonds of Winchester.

LADIES' FOOTBALL

SOUTHAMPTON Saints Ladies produced their best display of pre-season so far as they overcame Oxford City LFC 3-2 last Sunday.

Krystal Whyte, Kirsty Garner and Chelsea Owton got the goals as they took a narrow victory on Oxford's patch.

Elsewhere the under-15 side played out a 1-1 draw with touring American side Corcord-Carlisle.

Saints went into half-time one down against the Massachusetts side that had already beaten teams from Portsmouth, Winchester and Sussex.

They improved after the break and forced several fine saves from the visiting keeper before



Cleo Rawlings netted a rebound from a Grace Henderson effort late on to secure a draw.

Manager Peter Horne praised his team's spirit: "This Saints team never knows when it's beaten."

Saints' new-look under-14 side, pictured above, played well but ended up on the wrong side

of a 2-1 scoreline against Queens Park Rangers under-14s.

Five successful trialists came into the team for this friendly but couldn't prevent the visitors taking a half-time lead after a powerful effort found the net.

The away side doubled their lead after the interval before

Adam latched onto a through ball to reduce the deficit as Saints finished the game the stronger side.

Another new team are the under-tens who start training this week under the guidance of former Saints player Chrissy Murray, who has just obtained her coaching badge.

Local and national fixtures for the week ahead

Sunday, August 28
BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE
Man Utd v Arsenal (4.00), Newcastle v Fulham (1.00), Tottenham v Man City (1.30), West Brom v Stoke (3.00).
npower CHAMPIONSHIP
Nottm Forest v West Ham (1.15), Watford v Birmingham (3.00).

Monday, August 29
BLUE SQUARE BET CONFERENCE
Premier: Braintree Town v Ebbw Vale, Darlington v Lincoln City, Forest Green v Bath City, Gateshead v Grimsby, Kettering v Cambridge Utd, Newport County v Kidderminster, Southport v Barrow, Stockport v Mansfield, Tamworth v AFC Telford, Wrexham v Fleetwood Town, York v Alfreton Town.
South: Basingstoke v Hampton & Richmond, Dartford v Bromley, Eastbourne Borough v Chelmsford, Eastleigh v Weston-super-Mare, Farnborough v Maidenhhead, Salisbury City v Havant & Waterlooville, Staines v Boreham Wood, Sutton v Dover, Thurrock v Welling, Tonbridge v Woking, Truro v Dorchester.

EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division: AFC Totton v Weymouth, Arley v Cambridge City, Barwell v Stourbridge, Bedford City, Brackley v Evesham, Cirencester v Chesham, Frome v Chippenham, Oxford City v Banbury, Redditch v Leamington, St Albans v Hemel Hempstead, Swindon Supermarine v Basingstoke.
Division One South & West: Abingdon v North Leigh, Bishops Cleeve v Stourport Swifts, Gosport Borough v Poole Town, Halesowen v Cinderford, Pauline Rovers v Clevedon, Taunton v Bridgwater, Thatcham v Hungerford, Tiverton v Bideford, Wimbome v Sholing, Yate v Mangotsfield.

SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division: Alresford v GE Hamble, Alton v Moneyfields, Bemerton HH v Hamworthy Utd, Bournemouth Poppies v Lymington Town, Downton v Laverstock & Ford (2.00), Hayling & Brading, Horndean v Fareham, New Milton v Christchurch, Newport IOW v Blackfield & Langley, Romsey v Winchester City, Totton & Eling v Fawley.
Division One: Cowes Sports v Team Solent, Fleet Spurs v Andover NS, Petersfield v Whitechurch (11.30), Pewsey Vale v Verwood, Stockbridge v Ringwood, Warrminster v Andover.

PUMA ENGINEERING HAMPSHIRE LEAGUE
Senior Division: AFC Stoneham v AFC Aldermaston, Clantfield v Locks Heath (11.00), Colden Common v Overton, Fleetlands v Liphook, Hamble Club v Otterbourne, Liss Athletic v University of Portsmouth, Paulsgrove v OK Southampton, St John's Bishops v Waltham, Bournemouth Sports, Winchester Castle v Hedge End Rangers.

Tuesday, August 30
Carling Cup
Second round: Leyton Orient v Bristol Rovers, Aldershot v Carlisle, Swindon v Saints.
JOHNSTONE'S PAINT TROPHY
North section first round: Bradford v Sheffield Wednesday, Albion v Sheffield Utd, Bury v Crewe, Northampton v Huddersfield, Scunthorpe v Hartlepool, Tranmere v Port Vale, Walsall v Shrewsbury.
Southern section first round: Bournemouth v Hereford, Cheltenham v Torquay, Colchester v Barnet, Exeter v Plymouth, Milton Keynes Dons v Brentford, Southend v Crawley Town.
BLUE SQUARE BET CONFERENCE
Premier: Hayes & Yeading v Luton.
SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Division One: Brockenhurst v Hythe & Dibden, Verwood v Lymington Town.
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Premier Division: Dorchester v Sholing.
Division One West: Romsey Town v Fawley AF.

Wednesday, August 31
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Division One West: Brockenhurst v Hythe & Dibden, Verwood v Lymington Town.
PUMA ENGINEERING HAMPSHIRE LEAGUE
Senior Division: AFC Stoneham v Colden Common, Fleetlands v Blackfield, Hamble Club v Sporting BW, Liphook v Liss Athletic, Paulsgrove v Locks Heath, OK

Southampton v Otterbourne, Winchester Castle v Overton.
Thursday, September 1
EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP
Qualifying Group Eight: England U21 v Azerbaijan U21 (Vicarage Road Stadium).
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Division One West: Basingstoke v Gosport Borough.

Friday, September 2
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP
Qualifying Group A: Azerbaijan v Belgium, Germany v Austria, Turkey v Kazakhstan.
Qualifying Group B: Andorra v Armenia, Rep of Ireland v Slovakia, Russia v FYR Macedonia.
Qualifying Group C: Faroe Islands v Italy, Northern Ireland v Serbia, Slovenia v Estonia.
Qualifying Group D: Albania v France, Belarus v Bosnia-Herzegovina, Luxembourg v Romania.
Qualifying Group E: Finland v Moldova, Holland v San Marino, Hungary v Sweden.
Qualifying Group F: Georgia v Latvia, Israel v Greece, Malta v Croatia.
Qualifying Group G: Bulgaria v England (7.45), Wales v Montenegro.
Qualifying Group H: Cyprus v Portugal, Norway v Iceland.
Qualifying Group I: Lithuania v Liechtenstein.
BLUE SQUARE BET CONFERENCE
Premier: Stockport v Luton.

Saturday, September 3
(3pm KO unless stated otherwise)
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP
Qualifying Group I: Scotland v Czech Republic.
npower FOOTBALL LEAGUE
League 1: Carlisle v Milton Keynes Dons, Chesterfield v Leyton Orient, Hartlepool v Exeter, Notts County v Bournemouth, Oldham v Huddersfield, Scunthorpe v Colchester, Sheff Utd v Bury, Stevenage v Rochdale, Tranmere v Yeovil, Walsall v Brentford.
League 2: AFC Wimbledon v Port Vale, Aldershot v Cheltenham, Barnet v Accrington Stanley, Burton Albion v Plymouth, Crawley Town v Bristol Rovers, Crewe v Oxford Utd, Gillingham v Shrewsbury, Hereford v Darby & Red, Morecambe v Bradford, Southend v Northampton, Swindon v Rotherham, Torquay v Macclesfield.
BLUE SQUARE BET CONFERENCE
Premier: Braintree Town v Lincoln City, Darlington v Mansfield, Ebbw Vale v Barrow, Forest Green v Grimsby, Gateshead v Alfreton Town, Kettering v Fleetwood Town, Newport County v Cambridge Utd, Southport v AFC Telford, Wrexham v Kidderminster.

South: Basingstoke v Dartford, Chelmsford v Dover (3.30), Eastbourne Borough v Havant & Waterlooville, Eastleigh v Bromley, Salisbury City v Hampton & Richmond, Staines v Thurrock, Sutton v Dorchester, Tonbridge v Farnborough, Truro v Maidenhhead, Welling v Woking, Weston-super-Mare v Boreham Wood.

EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division: AFC Totton v Barwell, Banbury v Hemel Hempstead, Bedford v Arlesey, Cambridge City v Chippenham, Frome v Brackley, Hitchin v Basingstoke, Oxford City v Leamington, Redditch v Cirencester, Stourbridge v Chesham, Swindon Supermarine v St Albans, Weymouth v Evesham.
Division One South & West: Bideford v Sholing, Bishops Cleeve v Didcot, Bridgwater v Thatcham, Gosport Borough v Cinderford, Hungerford v Yate, Mangotsfield v Abingdon, North Leigh v Tiverton, Paulton Rovers v Wimbome, Poole Town v Clevedon, Stourport Swifts v Taunton.

FA CUP
Preliminary round: Totton & Eling v Bournemouth, Sholing v Newbury, Fleet Town v Alton, Wimbome Town v Godalming Town, Whitchurch v Brading, AFC Portchester v Newport IOW, Moneyfields v Gosport Borough, Winchester City v Blackfield & Langley, Arlesey v Hartley Wintney, Lymington Town v Brockenhurst, Horndean v Bridport.
SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division: Christchurch v Laverstock, Downton v GE Hamble, Fareham v Hamworthy Utd, Fawley v Bemerton HH, Hayling Utd v Romsey Town.
Division One: Andover NS v Cowes Sports, East Cowes Vics v

Brockenhurst, Fleet Spurs v Verwood, Hythe & Dibden v Amesbury, Ringwood v Team Solent, Stockbridge v Pewsey Vale, Tadley Calvea v Petersfield, US Portsmouth v Warrminster.

WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Premier Division: Bemerton HH v Christchurch.

Division One West: Brockenhurst v East Cowes Vics, Laverstock & Ford v Downton, Romsey v Lymington Town, Verwood v Ringwood.
Division One East: GE Hamble v Alton, Petersfield v Hayling Utd.
PUMA ENGINEERING HAMPSHIRE PREMIER LEAGUE
Senior Division: AFC Aldermaston v Sporting BW, AFC Stoneham v Liss Athletic, Colden Common v Clantfield, Fleetlands v Overton, Hamble Club v OK Southampton, Hedge End Rangers v Locks Heath, Liphook v Otterbourne, Paulsgrove v Winchester Castle, University of Portsmouth v Bournemouth Sports.
Combination: Clantfield v AFC Aldermaston, Liss Athletic v AFC Stoneham, Locks Heath v Overton, Otterbourne v Fleetlands, OK Southampton v Hamble Club, Sporting BW v Colden Common, Winchester Castle v Paulsgrove.

ISLE OF WIGHT LEAGUE
Division 1: Cowes Sports Res v Niton, Northwood SJ v Oakfield, Ryde Saints v Shanklin, Ventnor v Brading Town Res, West Wight v Binstead & COB, Newchurch v GKN.
Division 2: Brightstone v East Cowes Vics, Carisbrook United v Osborne Coburg, Newport A v Sandown, Pan Sports v Shanklin VYCC, W&B Sports v Seaview.

Division 3: East Cowes Youth OBs v Kynoges Towne, Holmewood Athletic v Rookley, Shanklin A v Ryde Saints A, Wakes v Yarmouth & Calbourne, Wroxall v Vectis Nomads.

Combination 1: Binstead & COB v GKN, Brading Town A v Ryde Saints, Newchurch v W&B Sports, Oakfield v Ventnor, Shanklin v West Wight.

Combination 2: Cowes Sports A v Carisbrook United, Kynoges Towne v Brightstone, Niton v Sandown, Seaview v Shanklin VYCC, St Helens BS v Wakes.

MID SOLENT YOUTH LEAGUE
Under-11 - Division A: East Lodge Hurricanes v Crofton Saints Lions, Locks Heath Lions v Fareham Town, Waltham Wolves Thunder v University of Portsmouth.
Division B: AFC Portchester v Waltham Wolves Tornadoes, Crofton Saints Panthers v Bishops Waltham Dynamos Blades, Crofton Saints Tigers v Whiteley Wanderers, East Lodge Mustangs v Warsash Wasps, Waltham Wolves.

Under-12 - Division A: AFC Portchester v Gosport Borough, Gosport v Fareham Park United.
Division C: AFC Portchester Royals v Bishops Waltham Dynamos Beta, Lee Rangers v Locks Heath Lions.

Under-13 - Division A: Locks Heath Lions v Havant & Waterlooville, Pompey Pirates v Grayshott FC Arrows, Rannvilles Rangers v Crofton Saints Lions.

Division B: AFC Portchester Castles v AFC Portchester Royals, Lee Rangers v Grayshott FC Blades, Waltham Wolves v Hayling United.

Under-14 - Division A: AFC Portchester v Horndean Hawks, Crofton Saints Blue v Locks Heath Lions, Crofton Saints Red v Waltham Wolves Spitfires, Fareham Town v Whiteley Wanderers Eagles.

Division B: AFC Dynamo v Crofton Saints Green, Alver Valley v Gosport Borough, Bishop's Waltham Dynamos Arrows v Warsash Wasps, Bishop's Waltham Dynamos Blades v Whiteley Wanderers Falcons.

Under-15 - Division A: Fareham Town v Gosport, Solent Youth v Whiteley Wanderers.

Division B: AFC Dynamo v Crofton Saints.

Under-16 - Division A: B.S.S. v Locks Heath Lions, Gosport C S Youth v Havant & Waterlooville, Gosport Falcons v Rannvilles Rangers, Newport St. Georges v United Services Ports.

Division B: Crofton Saints Blue v Eastney Pythons, Lee Rangers v Crofton Saints Red, Portsmouth Wanderers v Stubbington, Whiteley Wanderers v Headley Youth.

Division C: Bishops Waltham Dynamos v Grayshott, Crofton Saints Green v East Lodge.

Under-17/18: AFC Portchester v AFC Dynamos Crofton Saints v Warsash Wasps, Headley Youth v Losca, Locks Heath Lions v Whiteley Wanderers, Rannvilles Rangers v Harting Hawks.

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight



Cricket Stats

LEICESTERSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

Leicestershire innings

J J Cobb c Cross b Chapple0
 A McDonald c Parry b Maharoo7
 W I Jefferson b Mahmood23
 J du Toit st Cross b Keedy16
 J W A Taylor st Cross b Parry19
 P A Nixon run out19
 Abdul Razzaq not out36
 W A White not out3
 Extras9
Total 6 wkts (18 overs)132
Fall: 1-0 2-34 3-34 4-67 5-82 6-122.
Bowling: Chapple 3-0-26-1,
 Maharoo 4-0-30-1, Mahmood 3-0-34-1, Parry 4-1-15-1, Keedy 4-0-25-1.

Lancashire innings

S C Moore c Taylor b Cobb43
 T C Smith lbw b Henderson9
 S Croft c Henderson b McDonald10
 K R Brown c White b Cobb2
 P J Horton c Cobb b White0
 G D Cross not out12
 S I Mahmood run out1
 M F Maharoo not out0
 Extras2
Total 6 wkts (11 overs)79
Fall: 1-42 2-53 3-65 4-65 5-69 6-71.
Bowling: Hoggard 3-0-17-0, Abdul Razzaq 2-0-20-0, Henderson 2-0-8-1, McDonald 2-0-17-1, Cobb 1-0-6-2, White 1-0-9-1.

Result: Leicestershire tied with Lancashire (D/L Method).
 Leicestershire win a one-over eliminator.

HAMPSHIRE v SOMERSET

Hampshire innings

J H K Adams c Buttler b Dockrell10
 Shahid Afridi b Thomas80
 J M Vince c Pollard b Kartik22
 N D McKenzie lbw b Meschede4
 S M Ervine not out14
 L A Dawson not out4
 Extras4
Total 4 wkts (15.5 overs)138
Fall: 1-18 2-82 3-100 4-128.
Bowling: Kartik 3-0-32-1, Thomas 3.5-0-19-1, Dockrell 2-0-19-1, Pollard 3-0-32-0, Meschede 2-0-14-1, Suppiah 2-0-22-0.

Somerset innings

M Trescothick c McKenzie b Tahir 28
 C Kieswetter c Vince b Briggs14
 K Pollard c Vince b Tahir8
 Butler c Vince b Cork32
 Hildreth c Adams b Afridi9
 Trego not out2
 Suppiah run out0
 Extras1
Total 6 wkts (10 overs)94
Fall: 1-40, 2-50, 3-50, 4-90, 5-93, 6-94.
Bowling: Mascarenhas 2.0-0-22-0, Cork 2-0-22-1, Briggs 2.0-0-14-1, Shahid Afridi 2.0-0-16-1, Tahir 2.0-0-20-2.

Result: Hampshire tied with Somerset (D/L Method). Somerset win a one-over eliminator.

HEARTBREAK

SHAHID Afridi blasted his highest score for Hampshire but then suffered Super Over disappointment in a t20 semi-final of high drama against Somerset.

A Super Over was needed to decide who would play Leicestershire in the final after Somerset made 94-6, chasing a revised target of 95 in ten overs.

Afridi's brilliant 80 from only 42 balls against Somerset ensured that Hampshire made 138-4 from 15.5 overs in a semi-final seriously affected by rain.

Leicestershire stunned Lancashire with a Super Over win at the end of the first semi-final, which was also affected by the adverse weather.

And two interruptions at the beginning of Hampshire's innings initially reduced Finals Day's second game to 16 overs a side.

Another downpour forced the players off with one ball left of Hampshire's innings – leaving Somerset with a target of 95 from just ten overs.

Afridi's spectacular hitting looked to have put Hampshire on course.

Jimmy Adams holed out to long on for ten against slow left-armer George Dockrell, shortly after the first interruption.

But Afridi maintained his concentration, hitting FIVE sixes during his Edgbaston blitz.

The former Pakistan captain hit the Somerset attack for three of them during a pulsating 28-ball fifty, which he reached by carving the fourth of his six fours through the covers, against slow left-armer Arul Suppiah.

But it was his maximums that took the Birmingham crowd's breath away.

The first was an astonishing one-handed swipe over point against Craig Meschede, a South Africa medium pacer who is one of two players in the Somerset side, along with Dockrell, who did not play



POWER SHOW: Shahid Afridi on his way to 80 for Hampshire against Somerset. Pictures by Chris Moorhouse

Simon Walter

simon.walter@dailyecho.co.uk

CRICKET REPORTER



in last year's Rose Bowl final.

The next was drilled high against Indian slow left-armer Kartik over long off and he dealt a similar blow against Suppiah.

But after reaching his first fifty in a Hampshire shirt, Afridi saved his biggest hit of the afternoon for Keiron Pollard.

Afridi launched the West Indian star for a colossal

maximum, landing the ball high on the second tier of the stand.

Then, in the same over, he drove Pollard back over his head for the most handsome of straight sixes.

Afridi had some good fortune. He was on 36, his previous highest score in a Hampshire shirt, when he was dropped at backward point off a Kartik no ball.

He received good support

from James Vince, who contributed an 18-ball 22 before he pulled Kartik to Pollard at mid-wicket.

After McKenzie was lbw to Meschede for just four, Sean Ervine made an unbeaten 14 from 13 balls.

But the rain ensured Hampshire had a difficult total to defend.

Duckworth-Lewis calculations rarely work in favour of the side batting first in the shortest format, as the team chasing still have the benefit of all their wickets in hand.

Marcus Trescothick capitalised, getting Somerset off to a fantastic start in their pursuit of 95 from ten overs.

Dimi Mascarenhas took the new cherry for Hampshire, but Trescothick drove the first ball of the Somerset innings for four, then carved another to the fence.

Craig Kieswetter continued in a similar vein against Dominic Cork driving four then six against the Hampshire captain as Somerset reached 27-0 after their first two overs.

Trescothick improvised cleverly against Mascarenhas in the third, the last of the powerplay, as Somerset reached 40 without loss.

But Danny Briggs' first ball was driven straight to

ENGLAND CRICKET - SEE PAGES 36-39

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight

FOR HANTS

Will power puts Foxes in final



ABOVE: James Vince goes on the pull.

LEFT: Jimmy Adams skies a catch.

long off by Kieswetter, who made 14 from seven balls, at the beginning of the fourth.

Successive dot balls against Pollard stemmed the rate and an excellent over finished with Somerset 42-1 – needing 53 from 36 balls.

Somerset were still on target at halfway, at 50-1.

But then Imran Tahir entered the stage.

Pollard (8) drove the leg spinner's first ball, a full toss, straight to Vince at long off. And Tahir was on a hat-trick when Trescothick (28 from 17 balls) swept the next delivery to McKenzie just behind square.

The hat-trick ball was an anti-climactic wide.

But Somerset's required rate had climbed to more than ten an over off the last 24 balls – with 41 still needed and much pressure on the shoulders of Jos Buttler.

Buttler released some of it by driving Briggs for a straight six and with the game still on a knife edge he launched Tahir for a gargantuan maximum over long on.

After Tahir dropped a sharp return catch, Buttler ended the eighth over with another six over long on.

Somerset only needed 13 off the last two overs.

Buttler pulled Afridi for four before James Hildreth swept to Adams at deep mid-wicket.

Cork took the ball for the

last over, which began with Somerset only needing five to win.

Just two were needed from three balls when Buttler holed out against Cork for a magnificent 32.

A dot ball followed and a scrambled single meant the scores were level as Cork ran in to bowl the last delivery.

After a long delay, Suppiah could not get the ball of the square and he was run out by Vince at the bowler's end!

The match went to a Super Over, Hampshire's first in domestic competition and their first since beating Barbados during the Caribbean T20 in January.

Afridi bowled Hampshire's

over against Kieswetter, who scrambled two off the first ball and cut the next for four.

Buttler also drove the Pakistani for four, before Kieswetter paddled four to fine leg – leaving Hampshire a victory target of 17.

Alfonso Thomas started with a bouncer against Afridi that flew through to Kieswetter. The second ball looked horribly wide, but was not given. Afridi responded with a straight four, but was then caught at deep mid-wicket.

With 13 required from two balls, Adams could only manage a single. Then Vince failed to lay bat on ball.

WILL Jefferson was the Leicestershire hero as they beat Lancashire in a dramatic one-over eliminator to reach the Friends Life t20 final.

Finals day got off to a thrilling start as Lancashire forced the one-over decider with the final ball of their innings – Gareth Cross, below, smashing the required six off Wayne White.

But Claude Henderson kept Lancashire to 13 in his six balls, clearing the way for Jefferson to hit two fours and a six off Gary Keedy to reach the evening showpiece.

Leicestershire made 132 for six in 18 overs after rain shortened the innings, with Cross' six tying the match on a Duckworth-Lewis calculation at 79 after 11 overs.

Leicestershire's day started in the worst possible fashion, evergreen seamer Glen Chapple dismissing Josh Cobb with the first ball of the day.

Jefferson made a brisk 23 to get the scoreboard moving before he and Andrew McDonald fell to successive deliveries to make it 34 for three.

Jacques du Toit (16) and James Taylor (19) were both stumped as spinners Stephen Parry and Keedy found some turn.

Abdul Razzaq had just three from 12 balls before hammering the first six of finals day off Keedy, following up with another maximum off Farveez Maharoof.

He finished with 36 off 28, with Paul Nixon adding 19 before being run out. The veteran wicket-keeper will now delay his planned retirement after the Foxes secured their place in the Champions League.

The initial D/L adjustment left Lancashire needing 134 in 18 overs, Stephen Moore hitting a flurry of early boundaries – including four off Razzaq's second over.

Moore's aggression left opening partner Tom Smith with just nine of the first 42 by the time he was pinned lbw by Henderson.

Lancashire took two off the first ball of the ninth over – the second a contested overthrow – to go to 53 and level par on the D/L scale when the rain returned.

A revised target of 80 in 11 overs was set – or 27 from 17 balls after the restart.

McDonald removed Steven Croft with the first of them, Henderson catching a steepler.

A dot ball followed, but Moore responded with six over long-off and four through cover.

Cobb conceded just six in the penultimate over, also dismissing Karl Brown and Moore, who made an excellent 43.

That left Lancashire needing 11 off the last over, bowled by White. Paul Horton immediately holed out to long-off, with Sajid Mahmood run out two balls later.

With one ball left and six needed to tie, White's nerve gave way and Cross launched a full-toss down the ground to force the eliminator.

Moore and Tom Smith were the nominated batsmen for Lancashire, the former hitting Henderson for six off the first ball.

Croft added a four that might have been caught at fine leg but Henderson finished with two dots to keep Lancashire to 13.

Keedy took the ball for Lancashire but could not restrain Jefferson, who drilled the first two balls for four before lifting the fifth over the mid-wicket ropes.



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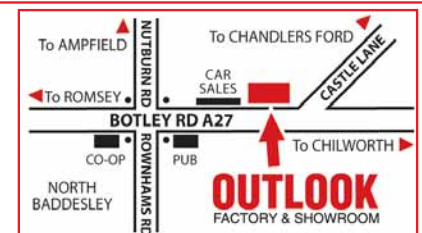
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TAKE OFF: Joel Roelants takes to the air in the MX2 race. Order no: 13001674



RACE TIME: Above and below, more action from the MX2 race.

Order no: 13001652



DIRTY WORK: The mud flies at the start of the MX2 race, left.

Order no: 13001631

MATTERLEY CROWD BOWLE

Matterley Bowl's m event is a roaring s

AROUND 30,000 people descended on Winchester's Matterley Bowl last weekend for two days of dramatic international motocross.

The British Motocross Grand Prix returned to the Matterley Estate and was pronounced a great success by organisers after fears of cancellation during Thursday's torrential downpour proved unfounded.

Organiser and promoter Steve Dixon said: "The weekend was fantastic, and we have heard of no problems."

"The police and council are really happy that it's gone so smoothly."

The event was a chance for fans to see the newly crowned British champions in action, Arnaud Tonus in the MX2 and Brad Anderson in the MX1, as well as current world championship leaders, Italian Tony Cairoli (MX1) and German Ken Roczen (MX2).

Tonus, who won his title at the event before

Matterley, is at Cosworth, W. Swanmore.

Highest place was Tommy yesterday in

In total there as well as nu itors to enjoy bouncy castle

This is the e at Matterley five years ago

The track a event, the M

Mr Dixon a helped by th chose to cam

He added: pionship hav have ridden

"I have be gone."

RLEY D ARE ED OVER



CRUNCH: A crash at the start of the MX1 race.
Order no: 13001800



motocross success

also a member of the Bike It
ild Wolf Yamaha team based in
ced British rider of the weekend
Searle, who finished third overall
MX2.
re were eight thrilling final races,
merous qualifying rounds for vis-
y alongside music, a fun fair and
e.
first time the event has been held
since its inaugural British GP
o.
Also hosted a second international
otocross of Nations, that year.
said this year's event had been
e fact that around 5,000 visitors
p out at the event.
'Both leaders of the World cham-
e said that it's the best track they
on this year.
en really pleased with how it's



LIFT OFF: Pascal
Rauchenchen in front of a
packed Matterley Bowl
crowd. Order no: 13001699

AIRBORNE: Jordan
Booker takes the aerial
route in the MX2 race,
right, and, main pic,
the MX1 race gets
under way.

Order no: 13001666/13001842



Non-league Football

Non-league News

Many hands make the lights work

FAREHAM Town's new flood-lights are due to make their full debut in the Hampshire Senior Cup tie against Fawley AFC on September 13.

After months of waiting, the Sydenhams Wessex Premier Division outfit finally had the lights installed at their Cams Alders headquarters last week.

"The old set were over 30 years old and had been repaired so often they couldn't be repaired any more," said a club spokesman.

"For many, having new lights has been a dream, something that has needed to be done for many years.

"The club would like to thank everyone everywhere who has been involved in this project in any shape or form."

Plenty of ins and outs at Blackfield

TOM Barge, one of Blackfield & Langley's summer signings, has departed Gang Warily to join Sydenhams Division One neighbours Hythe & Dibden.



The ex-Lymington Town central midfielder made his debut for the Waterside outfit in their 4-1 opening day win over Tadley Calvea.

Blackfield, meanwhile, have signed John Howard – brother of Reading's ex-Saint, Brian – from Lymington Town and have dual-signed ex-Eastleigh reserve striker Manny Soetan, pictured, from AFC Totton.

Luke's return will please the fans

SALISBURY City have welcomed defender Luke Ruddick back to the Raymond McEnhill Stadium.

The 21-year-old was a Whites regular until joining Bath City of the Blue Square Bet Premier last season.

Manager Darrell Clarke said: "Luke was very popular with the fans in his first spell because of his winning mentality and I'm sure that in his second spell with us he will be an even better player.

"He is a very good defender and an excellent addition to our squad."

New sponsors for Sholing

SHOLING have unveiled Picador Vauxhall as their back-of-shirt sponsors for this season.

The local car dealership will also support the Portsmouth Road club through perimeter advertising, programme advertising and football in the community projects.

Dave Diaper, manager of the ambitious Evo-Stik Division One South &

West outfit, said: "We are delighted to have attracted a major business like Picador Vauxhall to form a partnership with the club.

"The sponsorship they have given us will help develop the club in many ways."

Graham Jacobs, Picador's chief executive officer, said: "As a family-run business that supports

local community projects, our company is very happy to begin a partnership with Sholing FC, not only by sponsorship of the first team and ground advertising, but by getting involved in the club's football in the community programme.

"We hope this will be the start of a long and fruitful partnership for many years to come."

Sholing also have KAR Contractors on board as their main shirt sponsors, while Dansach Electrical Suppliers are the Boatmen's away shirt suppliers.

Other local businesses in the area are now supporting the club through advertising and sponsorship, but there is always room for more.

Contact Ken Wilde on 07860 206466.



DAVE DIAPER

Temporary role suits Cook



RUSSELL COOK

STRIKER Russell Cook has returned to Christchurch from Poole Town – but only for the time being.

Priory have welcomed him back to Hurn Bridge on loan in an arrangement which suits both clubs perfectly – and the player himself.

With Ben Osborne out for at least another month after coming off worse in an accidental clash of heads with Downton's Josh Thomas, Christchurch are crying out for cover up front.

And Cook – who left Priory to join Poole during the 2008/09 season – needs games as he continues his recovery from the broken ankle he suffered in FA Cup action against Hayes & Yeading last October.

Prior to his injury, Cook had established himself as a Dolphins favourite, striking up an effective frontline partnership with Charlie Austin before the latter got his big break into the Football League.

"Russell came back towards the end of last season, but he struggled on the hard ground in pre-season.

Wendy Gee

wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk

NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

gled on the hard ground in pre-season.

"He's been sitting on the bench and he needs games," explained Christchurch boss Graham Kemp.

"We've lost Ben Osborne for a while and Russell is a perfect replacement. He knows Christchurch well and I can put him in without upsetting anyone."

With Poole having progressed into the Southern League, Cook has even more work to do to force his way back into the Dolphins' starting line-up.

But Kemp stressed: "Tom (Poole boss Tom Killick) rates him. He gives them something different."

"Much as I'd love to have Russell back at Christchurch, I've made it clear that I'm not trying to tap him up."

"Tom has done me a favour and I will honour that."

Without Osborne, Christchurch lacked a cutting edge in a 2-0 FA Cup loss at Moneyfields last week.

Kemp was left rueing missed chances and said it would have been a different story had Priory been more clinical in front of goal.

Kemp, whose men also lost at Moneyfields on the opening day of the Sydenhams Premier season, said: "We played a lot better this time, but we were unfortunate."

"We had the three best chances, but you have got to take them."

Moneyfields lost goal machine Warren Hunt to Blackfield & Langley during the summer but appear to have found a ready-made replacement in Steve Hutchings.

The ex-AFC Bournemouth and Havant & Waterlooville striker

netted twice in the last eight minutes to sink Christchurch and bagged two more in Tuesday's incredible 6-5 league victory over Romsey Town.

Justin is the hero

JUSTIN Bennett preserved Gosport Borough's unbeaten start to the season with a last-gasp leveller against Didcot Town at Privett Park on Monday.

It was the second goal in three days for the former Andover and Eastleigh marksman, whose 60th-minute strike had earned Borough a slender 1-0 win at Bridgwater Town.

Gosport faced an uphill struggle on Monday when Francis Vines' Didcot took an early lead – Joss Millar meeting Phil John's near-post cross with a diving header with just three minutes gone. Their cause wasn't helped when ex-Saints and Eastleigh left-sided player Brett Poate limped out of the game on 55 minutes.

But Bennett was again the hero, managing to tuck home the equaliser with just seconds remaining to seal a 1-1 Evo-Stik Southern One South & West draw.

"We left it late, but we deserved to get something out of the game," said Gosport president John Stimpson.

Bemerton plan big hit

BEMERTON Heath Harlequins' annual charity open golf championship will be held on Wednesday, September 7, at Hamptworth Golf Club, starting at 2pm.

Organiser and club chairman Steve Slade said: "This is the 18th time we have run the event and it boasts absolutely the best prize fund in local golf."

The first prize is to the

value of £400 or a round of golf at a Ryder Cup venue, while the grand draw prize offers seven days in a luxury Spanish villa. The popular event has helped raise significant funds for local charities over the years.

"So far we have given in excess of £40,000 to charity and we are trying to raise another £2,500 for Odstock's

Pembroke Unit for cancer and blood disorders," added Slade. "The Hamptworth course is in superb condition and we are looking forward to a great day."

Entry fee of £45 includes tea or coffee plus a bacon roll, green fee, a two-course meal and a charity donation. Anyone interested in taking part can contact Slade on 07798 732799.

MORE NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL ON PAGES 28-30

Non-league Football

Guy gives City stars early warning

ANGRY Winchester City manager Guy Butters has warned his players that no one's place is safe following Wednesday's shock 4-2 home defeat by Alresford Town.

City slipped 4-0 down to goals by Warren Bentley (2), Josh Warren and Mike McEnery before belatedly hitting back through two-goal Graham Lindsey.

"We can accept one poor performance, but I didn't expect it to be tonight," fumed a stunned Butters.

"Alresford must have been preparing for this game since pre-season. They were bang up for us

today and all their players performed."

Having finished third in the Sydenhams Premier Division last season, Winchester strengthened considerably during the summer and, in a poll of Wessex managers, 50 per cent tipped them to win the title.

Butters is hoping that Wednesday's poor performance was just "a blip" but is ready to ring the changes if there is any repeat.

"No one's position is safe and some of the players need to go home and have a look at their perfor-

mances tonight," he warned.

"We are constantly looking to improve the squad and every player needs to earn the right to play."

Alresford co-boss Danny Robinson – himself a former City man – beamed: "We're obviously delighted with the result. Half our dressing room are ex-Winchester and most come back with a point to prove. After a dodgy start to the season, it is great to get this result and I hope it gives the side confidence."

"Winchester are a quality outfit and obviously we caught them on a bad day."

Blackfield & Langley, another side with title aspirations, were also condemned to midweek defeat, 2-1 at home by Fareham Town.

Fareham – boosted by the return from holiday of veteran defender Mat Jones – came back from behind to score twice in the closing stages through substitute Jack Kirby and match-winner Rob Stock.

As Blackfield's frustration boiled over, ex-Fareham midfielder Joe Bye was shown red for dissent.

For Town, the result made swift amends for Saturday's 5-1 FA Cup surrender at Totton & Eling.

Non-league News

Beaten Bash bring in two new recruits

PAT Cox has joined Evo-Stik Premier outfit Bashley on a free transfer from Gosport Borough.

The former Salisbury City utility man will help fill the void left by central midfielder Chris Knowles who is moving to Australia next month.

Bash boss Steve Riley has also signed first-year pro Paddy Hester, pictured, on an initial one-month loan deal from AFC Bournemouth.

Hester featured in Tuesday's visit to Oxford City, which ended in a second successive 3-0 defeat for Riley's men. Ex-Saint Steve Basham was among the Oxford scorers.



Scott has to call it quits

FORMER Salisbury City stalwart Scott Bartlett has been forced to retire due to a knee injury.

Following consultation with an orthopaedic surgeon, the popular 32-year-old utility man announced he would be hanging up his boots with immediate effect.

Bartlett, one of the linchpins of Salisbury's spectacular rise from the Southern League to the Conference National, left Bath City to join Forest Green Rovers on a part-time contract in June last year.

He had previously played under Forest Green manager Dave Hockaday – an ex-Saints coach – as a youth player at Cirencester Town.

He is expected to remain on the staff at The New Lawn in a coaching and scouting capacity but will be missed as a player by his teammates.

Green striker Charlie Griffin dedicated victory to Bartlett after the Gloucestershire club had thrashed Alfreton Town last Saturday to maintain their impressive unbeaten start to the Blue Square Bet Premier campaign.

"Scotty is a fantastic lad and

Wendy Gee
wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk
NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

someone I've known since playing at youth level with Wiltshire," said former Woking, Salisbury and Stevenage man Griffin.

"It's been an honour to have played with him and it's very sad that he's had to call it a day. But he's still part of the team and his knowledge of non-League is a great help to the football club."

Bartlett managed only 11 appearances for Rovers last season having been plagued by a catalogue of injuries, including a dislocated knee cap which ruled him out of the last three months of the campaign.

He battled back to fitness for the start of pre-season, but continued to suffer chronic pain after matches.

Hockaday said: "I'm devastated for Scott. He had a great career and will remain a big asset to this football club. We will find a suitable role for him."

Along with FGR teammate Wayne Turk, Bartlett remained loyal to Salisbury when they were staring extinction in the face following a dismal 2001/02 season when they finished bottom of the

old Southern League Premier Division.

That loyalty was repaid when new owners stepped in and Bartlett became a mainstay of the Whites team which climbed the leagues so successfully under the management of Nick Holmes.

He left the Raymond McEnhill Stadium due to work commitments in February 2009. He had made over 400 appearances for Salisbury in an Old Sarum career that spanned nearly a decade.

Commenting on his retirement, Bartlett said: "Unfortunately for me the injury proved too serious and is something that will not enable me to play competitively any more without having serious repercussions late in life."

"I had a point to prove this season, so there is regret there, but this injury could have happened to me when I was 21, so I'm very grateful and proud of the career I've had."

"I've been fortunate enough to play for some fantastic clubs with some brilliant players."

"My future still belongs in football and sometimes when one door closes another one opens."

"I believe I have a lot to offer this football club (Forest Green) and desperately hope to stay involved."



SCOTT BARTLETT

Western soon changes direction

STRIKER Danny Western did a swift about-turn after leaving Amesbury Town for his old club Downton.

No sooner had he arrived back at Wick Lane than he decided to move on again to nearby Sydenhams Premier rivals Laverstock & Ford.

Jeff Softley, manager of newly-promoted Division One champions

Downton, said: "Obviously we're disappointed with what's happened, but what can you do?"

"We signed Danny again thinking he'd be a good addition to our side as we prepared for what we know will be a highly competitive Premier Division season."

"Everyone welcomed him back and he had looked sharp in pre-sea-

son, so it was very disappointing that, having signed for us, he then changed his mind again."

"We don't want to keep players who don't want to play for us, so after Laverstock made their approach we did the sensible thing and ripped up his registration so he could play for them in their opening game."

Western weighed in with an impressive four-goal haul as Laverstock caned New Milton 7-3 on the opening day of the campaign.

Since then, however, Neville Beal's 'Jekyll & Hyde' side have been on the receiving end of 4-1 and 6-1 hidings by Lymington Town and Fawley AFC.

Portchester make history in FA Cup

AFC PORTCHESTER created a slice of club history last Saturday when they played their first ever FA Cup tie – at Cove.

And there was a positive outcome for the Sydenhams One side club who turned over their Combined Counties hosts 2-0 thanks to a goal in each half from Mark Collis and Jake Daniels.

TURN BACK TO PAGE 15 FOR TODAY'S NONE-LEAGUE ACTION

Non-league Football

Non-league News

Dorchester clear way for Bowles

GARY Bowles will finally become an AFC Bournemouth player after Blue Square Bet South club Dorchester Town accepted an improved offer for the defender.

But Bowles's ties at the Avenue Stadium have yet to be severed.

Cherries upped the ante with a five-figure sum after failing with two separate bids for the 22-year-old earlier this month.

And although the former Yeovil man will now join the League One outfit, he is being loaned back to the Magpies as part of the switch, which also includes a sell-on clause.

Dorchester chairman Shaun Hearn confirmed: "We have accepted a nominal fee with add-ons and hopefully it suits everybody."

"Gary will, though, come back on loan for the rest of the season unless they call him back."

"We never wanted to stand in his way so, hopefully, he will fulfil his potential there."

Havant defending 'abysmal' – boss

HAVANT & Waterlooville boss Shaun Gale blamed "abysmal defending" for Tuesday's 3-1 defeat at Weston-super-Mare.

It was the third loss in a row for the Westleigh Park outfit in the Blue Square Bet South.

"We were in control in the first half," said Gale, pictured, whose side led 1-0 at half-time through Ryan Woodford.

"But, once again, we came out and defended abysmally."

"We are cutting our own throats at the moment and we have to address the situation quickly or we could find ourselves having a long, hard season."

Lewis's stay at Bemerton is brief

WIDE man Craig Lewis has left Bemerton Heath Harlequins for Sydenhams Premier neighbours Downton – just weeks after climbing aboard from Shrewton United.

"Craig felt he should be a first-choice player and that he would get more games at Downton," said Harlequins boss Ian Chalk. "We wish him all the best."

SUHAEL Odeh has left Winchester City to join Evo-Stik Southern One Central outfit Fleet Town.

A former Basingstoke Town youngster, Odeh first appeared on the south Hampshire scene with AFC Totton, who loaned him out to New Milton Town in the Sydenhams Wessex League.

From there he joined Winchester City where he made 24 Wessex starts last season, scoring five goals.

Former Winchester boss Andy Leader, who joined Fleet this summer as assistant to Steve Mellor, said: "Suhael contacted me a couple of weeks ago and we put him on against Bedworth United last Saturday – and he did really well."

"He can be used as a wide player, but we put him on up top and he looked outstanding. He's such a busy player, his workrate is fantastic and he's got the ability to go with it. I'm surprised Winchester didn't want to keep him."

Fleet lost the Bedworth game 3-1, ending a promising start to the season which had brought back-to-back 1-0 victories over Biggleswade and Bedford.

On each occasion the winning goal came via the boot of former Bashley, AFC Totton and Gosport Borough midfielder Craig Davis who followed Leader to Calthorpe Park from Andover.

He popped up with a stoppage-time strike to sink Biggleswade and then sent the keeper the wrong way from the penalty spot to seal another

Odeh is a hit at Fleet

tight win over Bedford.

Despite his proven pedigree, Davis stuck by Andover during a torrid season which saw them finish rock-bottom of the Southern One South & West and eventually go out of business over the summer.

That loyalty has earned him great respect from former BAT, Christchurch and Eastleigh Reserves boss Leader who is delighted to see the Chandler's Ford-based player starting the season so well for Fleet.

"Craig's been magnificent," he said.

"He's a good boy and I've got a lot of respect for him."

"He could have walked away from Andover last season, but he didn't, and I always said that the experience would make him a better person and a better player when he eventually kicked on again."

"If Craig has got your respect and trust he will walk through a brick wall for you."

"He had to play in defence for Andover last season because we had

no one else, but he's back in his best position now running the show as a box-to-box midfielder."

"He's got his legs back, we've given him the freedom to play and he's been magnificent in there for us."

"The lads have got a lot of time for him. I think he's a top bloke."

With his 30th birthday fast approaching, Davis is one of the older heads in a fairly youthful Fleet side.

"Apart from Craig and (goalkeepers) Andy Bayliss and Dave Smalley, the average age must be about 20," said Leader.

"We've picked up quite a few players from Farnborough and Aldershot. They're only young, but they've got the pedigree and ability because they've been with good clubs already."

Ten-man Fleet stumbled to a second straight defeat on Tuesday, losing 4-2 at home to Uxbridge. They lost keeper Bayliss to injury and had defender Gavin Miller red-carded in the 47th minute.



SUHAEL ODEH

Promoted pair

Wendy Gee

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

TWO Laverstock & Ford players have stepped up two divisions into the Evo-Stik Southern Premier with Swindon Supermarine.

Livewire frontman Danny Urry and goalkeeper Kent Kauppinen both featured in the Marine side sunk by four late AFC Totton strikes at the Testwood Stadium last Saturday.

Former Andover striker Urry earned his promotion after netting ten goals in 39 Wessex starts for Lavvy last term. And he has been joined at The Webbs Wood Stadium by goalkeeper-cum-outfielder Kauppinen, formerly of Bemerton Heath Harlequins.

Both players will be hard to replace in the Laverstock line-up, but they not only went with manager Neville Beal's approval – but on his recommendation.

It was Beal, former chairman of Salisbury City, who alerted Marine's player/co-manager – ex-Saints, Salisbury and Totton full-back Matt Robinson – to the pair's talent.

Despite the difference in standard, Beal is confident Urry and



NEVILLE BEAL

LAVERSTOCK & Ford boss Neville Beal was left despondent by his side's 6-1 collapse at home to Fawley AFC last Saturday.

Elliott Wykes' second goal in three games had put Lavvy in front, but back stormed the Oilers through Sam Wiltshire (2), Steve Hall, Aaron Blaxall, Zac Anderson and Lewis Ross.

"We started really well and should have been more than one up," said Beal.

"Then we just went to

pieces and I'm getting fed up with it."

"Too often we concede a couple of goals and then capitulate."

"Fawley weren't as good as Lymington Town (who beat Lavvy 4-1 the previous midweek). We proved they were there for the taking by the way we started the game."

Opposing manager Paul Wiltshire was naturally delighted with his side's landslide Sydenhams Premier success. The Fawley boss

grinned: "That's the best result we've ever had in the Premier Division."

"We didn't start too well and after the first 15 minutes I thought we were going to have our work cut out against a decent looking Laverstock side."

"But as soon as we got the equaliser, we took them apart."

"We put in some good performances in pre-season, but this was probably the best I'd seen us play in a competitive game."

Kauppinen will take the move in their stride.

Former Salisbury youngster Urry played just behind the frontmen for Lavvy last season and, just 20, has a promising future.

"Danny joined us as an out and out striker, but I changed him into a goal maker and he did really well," said Beal. "He's quick, good in the air and his only small weakness, if he's got one, is that he doesn't score enough goals. But I think he can prove himself at the higher level and I promised him that if he played for me for a year, I would see what I could do for him."

"It will weaken us a bit not having Danny around, but I want him to

play as high as possible. I want to see good players move on."

The same goes for Kauppinen who came through Bemerton's reserves as a goalkeeper and donned the gloves for Ian Chalk's first-team squad.

But a change of club heralded a change of position last season as he plied his trade in Laverstock's midfield, making 30 Wessex appearances and scoring five goals.

Another Lavvy loss – this time unscheduled – is centre-half Matt Scott who broke a leg in a 4-0 pre-season victory over Amesbury Town.

"We lost Kyle Tryhorn, Sam Parker and Graham Mills to breaks

last season, so we haven't had much luck," said Beal. "We didn't sign Graham Mills until Christmas and he only played eight games before he broke his ankle, but the good news is that he has re-signed. He will be an important player for us having played higher with Team Bath, AFC Totton etc."

Urry's brother, Michael, has arrived from Andover to bolster the defence and utility player Matt Styles returns to Church Road, also from the now defunct Lions.

Midfielder Joey Weeks has joined Laverstock from Shrewton United and striker Danny Western is on board after the briefest of returns to Downton.

NON-LEAGUE STORY TO TELL? EMAIL WENDY GEE AT wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk

Non-league Football

NUMBER ONE AT EASTLEIGH

GARETH Barfoot has been restored as Eastleigh's goalkeeping number one after the Blue Square Bet South club parted company with summer signing Mike Green.

After being released by Bristol Rovers at the end of last season, Green trialled with npower League Two side Cheltenham Town before signing for Eastleigh following impressive pre-season performances at Weymouth, Oxford City and Sholing.

That left the 23-year-old in pole position for the opening league game of the season against Basingstoke Town.

But, following a 2-0 reverse by their Hampshire rivals, the Spitfires brought in ex-AFC Totton man Barfoot for the trip to Truro City three days later, leaving Green warming the bench.

Bristol-born Green, who harbours hopes of returning to the professional game, wasn't happy at being dropped and has now joined BSB North side Gloucester City for whom he made a midweek debut at Eastwood Town.

Explaining Green's premature departure from the Silverlake, Eastleigh boss Ian Baird said: "He wanted to sign non-contract, which left him a bit exposed."

"I told him he needed to be shaken up a bit and he didn't like what I said, so I used the benefit of non-contract and let him go."

Also leaving the club is goalkeeping coach Ian Harris, who held similar posts with Salisbury City and Newport County.

Eastleigh fans have seen the last, too, of former Stockport County defender/midfielder Jordan Rose and ex-Saints centre back Ryan Tafazolli.

Both players agreed to train and play for the club for nothing while they looked for openings in the professional game. But Baird has lost patience with the pair of them.

He said: "Jordan Rose has drifted away. He kept telling me league

Barfoot gets nod as Green departs

clubs were interested in taking him on trial, but nothing ever happened. It's the same with Ryan Tafazolli.

"We can't wait around for them, so that's that as far as I'm concerned."

After starting the season with three straight defeats, the Spitfires finally got up and running with a 0-0 home draw against title tips Woking on Tuesday.

With senior players Andy Forbes, Tom Jordan and Jamie Brown outstanding, Eastleigh defended superbly to frustrate the Cards and even had chances to nick all three points.

"We had a game plan against a side I think will be in the top two, based on the size and quality of their squad, and the players can be proud of themselves for sticking to the task so well," said Baird.

"You only had to look at the Woking bench to see what we were

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IN FAVOUR: Eastleigh goalkeeper Gareth Barfoot.

up against. We brought on an 18-year-old and a 16-year-old in Jordace Holder-Spooner and Sam Wilson.

"We more than deserved what we got tonight."

"It doesn't make everything right, but what it says is that we're not too far away."

Cheased off Woking chief Garry Hill had a slightly different slant on the game, claiming the Cards should have run out clear winners.

"You could see the relief on their bench after the final whistle," he said. "They thought they had won the Champions' League and that's got to be a compliment to us. Second half they've been absolutely battered, but we just couldn't get that goal."

"If people had put the ball away, we could have had three or four."

"I think people are going to go away from Eastleigh wondering how we haven't won that in the second half."

Poppies make Simon see red

ANGRY boss Simon Browne pulled no punches in his assessment of Hamworthy United's FA Cup exit at the hands of Dorset rivals Bournemouth Poppies.

Browne admitted his team's performance had left him in a "bad mood" after former County Ground frontman Dave Ewen returned to haunt his old club in a 2-1 Poppies victory.

The Hammers had been keen to keep hold of Ewen during the summer, but lost him to their Sydenhams Premier Division neighbours. And it was Ewen who emerged as the star of the show, bagging both Poppies' goals to cancel out Luke Burbidge's penalty and send Kenny Vaughan's men through to face Totton & Eling in the next round.

"It was a thoroughly depressing afternoon," admitted former Salisbury City defender Browne.

"I spoke to Kenny Vaughan after the game and he wasn't overly impressed with the way his team had played."

"It wasn't the greatest afternoon's entertainment."

"We were awful in the first half and got back into it in the second

half and scored a penalty. But, yet again, our defensive frailties cost us."

"We have got players who weren't making these mistakes last season."

"We have worked on it in training but, being a former defender myself, I keep getting stick from my mates asking me why we are conceding goals."

Non-league News

Killick's positive after treble loss

BOSS Tom Killick was keeping a stiff upper lip after presiding over a rare and unwanted hat-trick of defeats for Southern League new boys Poole Town.

The Dolphins' tough baptism as a Southern One South & West club continued when they were sentenced to a 3-2 home reverse by Thatcham Town on Tuesday, writes Neil Perrett.

Since registering an opening-day victory over Stourport

Swifts, Poole have been beaten by last season's play-off finalists Sholing, semi-finalists Mangotsfield and Thatcham.

"It is difficult, but we have got to be a bit more resilient," said Killick, pictured. "We are too easy to score against at the moment."

"It looks bad in terms of losing three in a row but, if you look at the calibre of the opposition and the margin of defeat, I am still relatively positive about things."

"We have conceded three penalties in our past three games, all of which were avoidable. All three goals against Thatcham were down to individual mistakes, albeit a refereeing error contributed to the third."

Friday nights go down well

THE Sydenhams League are encouraging clubs to make the most of their allowance of Friday night games.

All Wessex teams are able to play two home and two away fixtures on Friday evenings each season.

"This is well worth doing as Friday night football provides an excellent opportunity for larger attendances because there are so few Friday games," said a league spokesman.

"Romsey Town v Bournemouth Poppies achieved an impressive attendance of 158, so this indicates that it is an excellent opportunity to bolster crowds."

Romsey boss Wayne Mew agreed: "It was well worth changing the Bournemouth match to a Friday night."

"We might reciprocate it when we play Bournemouth away to help them out."

TODAY'S NON-LEAGUE RESULTS - SEE BACK PAGE

Non-league Football

Non-league News

'Church in cup shock

WHITCHURCH United returned to the FA Cup with a bang last Saturday as the Sydenhams One club humbled Premier Division high-fliers Bemerton Heath Harlequins 3-2.

It proved to be a brilliant day for the North Hampshire club who went 3-0 up through Ashley Childs (2) and Grant Powell in the extra qualifying round tie at Longmeadow. Harlequins forced their way back with a 73rd-minute Jack Slade penalty before the same player added a second two minutes from time from a free kick.

It set up a nervous finale, but Whitchurch held on – even with goalkeeper Dan McGee playing with a broken hand.

United now entertain another Wessex Premier outfit, Brading Town, next Saturday. Delighted Whitchurch boss Jim Macey said: "We are over the moon. It was a great win and I don't want to single anyone out as everyone played their part."

"It was like dreamland when we went 3-0 up and then they started getting at the young ref and I felt really sorry for him. They just kept going at him and that is how they got the penalty and free-kick for the goals. So it was even more pleasing when we won."

Bemerton manager Ian Chalk was magnanimous in defeat, however.

"Whitchurch were the better team for an hour, so they deserved to win," he confessed. "We weren't at the races, but Whitchurch were good. They had a lot of new players and a lot of quality."

Whitchurch have signed goalkeeper Tom Hindmarsh, a Basingstoke League player last season, to cover for McGee and another new addition is former Fleet Town and Tadley Calleva midfielder Adam Everest.

Captain Ashley Lloyd is back in full training after injury but, on the debit side, they lost Alex Dockree (turned ankle) and Nick Jupp (broken wrist) during the Bemerton game.



DOUBLE:
Jack Slade.

Backward step suits Byron

HE arrived at Little Testwood Farm this summer as a midfielder.

But Byron Gharibian's future at Totton & Eling may well lie in central defence.

His change of role from right winger to centre-back coincided with two very different results in back-to-back meetings with Fareham Town.

On the opening day of the season Gharibian filled in as an emergency wide man as the under-strength Millers succumbed to a 2-0 Sydenhams Premier Division defeat at Cams Alders.

But seven days later he lined up alongside the towering Jamie Feasey at centre-back and played his part in a 5-1 revenge mission over the Creeksiders in the FA Cup extra preliminary round.

"Byron was at Blackfield



NEW ROLE: Totton's Byron Gharibian.

& Langley with Lee Thorne and one or two of our other lads," explained Millers boss Kev Dawtry.

"He's not played football

for a year or so – certainly not in the Wessex League – but he came to us in the summer and featured in most of the friendlies.

"When I asked him what position he played, he said midfield and he came on as a midfielder for 20 minutes or so against Thatcham in the Linden Homes Tournament. He did okay, but we used so many subs that it was difficult to assess what he was like.

"When we came to play Bemerton two days later we were bereft of centre-halves, so Byron said he would give it a go and he did really well.

"He's very good on the ball and that suits our style because we like to play from the back.

"Byron's not the biggest for a centre half, but Jamie Feasey alongside him is about 6ft 3in and he heads and kicks everything that

moves, so they make a good combination.

"We had a hell of a lot of possession against Fareham in the FA Cup and that suited Byron. It may be different in games where we don't see as much of the ball, but we've got four or five centre-halves in the club so we can change it around.

"The only drawback would be that Byron gets shunted around a bit into different positions."

Not only did Gharibian look at ease defensively in the FA Cup, he even managed to get himself on the scoresheet.

Having trailed to a tenth-minute Rob Tambling goal, Totton & Eling hit back through Paul Miller, Gharibian, Jo Tessem, Paddy James (penalty) and Luke Watts.

Dawtry, whose side now entertain divisional rivals Bournemouth Poppies in

next Saturday's preliminary round, reflected: "Fareham scored with their first real attack which knocked us back a bit, but we had a bit of good fortune with the equaliser."

"Paul Miller cut in from the left and had a shot which hit one of their guys on the shoulder and flew into the other corner."

Fareham had had the better of the opening stages with Tambling also having a goal ruled out and Rob Stock seeing a header cleared off the line.

But Town's frustration spilled over with a flurry of yellow cards and the 55th-minute dismissal of Louis Martin, shown a straight red for dissent with the score at 2-1.

"It really hinged on being down to ten men after Louis Martin – our best defender – was sent off," said Fareham secretary Ian Tewson.

Cheeky Monkey



JAMES RODEN

JAMES Roden's suspension and holiday-interrupted start to the season could leave him with a hefty price to pay – in more ways than one.

The GE Hamble skipper – better known to his teammates as 'Monkey' – will not only be hit in the pocket, but he might even struggle to regain his place in the midfield engine room.

Having been banned for the first three games of the campaign, the gritty midfielder made a brief return as a substitute in Tuesday's 3-1 win over Newport IOW.

But he has now gone on holiday for a week, ruling him out of this weekend's Sydenhams Premier double header at Alton (today) and at Alresford on Monday.

"Monkey's only just back from suspension and now he's going to miss another two games," said the Planemakers' co-boss Danny Bowers. "It's a bad time to go away – particularly as he's head of the fines committee!"

"The players get fined for going on holiday during the season and, in Monkey's case, he'll have to pay double."

Roden's three-match suspension gave Bowers and joint manager Paul Cotton the chance to try a new pairing in midfield.

And, so far, the combination of Lewis Fennemore and Lloyd Webber has been highly effective in a seven-points-out-of-nine start

Fines chief could be paying up himself

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

to the Sydenhams Premier campaign.

Webber, a pedigree attacking midfielder in his hey-day, has been used mainly as a centre-back in recent seasons.

But, with Dan Turner, Lee Wood and Scott Gilham to choose from in the heart of the Hamble defence, it has allowed the 30-year-old former Basingstoke, Andover and Winchester City man to ply his trade again in the centre of the park.

"Lloyd's been a revelation in there," said Bowers. "He's been outstanding in every game so far and he's really enjoying it."

"He and Lewis Fennemore make a strong partnership. They're both 6ft-plus with good legs."

"Whereas last year we knew who the starting eleven would be for the majority of the season, this year we've got competition for places."

"Lloyd and Lewis are doing well in midfield at the moment, but they're going to have a bad period

at some stage and Monkey will get his chance."

"He (Roden) came on against Newport the other night and did well playing at right-back, which was the position he used to play for BAT."

The only blot on Hamble's copy-book so far was last Saturday's 3-1 FA Cup exit at Blackfield & Langley.

Bowers, though, believes it could be a blessing in disguise.

Last season's cup heroics, which ended in third qualifying round defeat at Farnborough, cost his side dearly in terms of lost momentum in the league.

"Don't get me wrong, I enjoyed every minute of the Cup run, but it killed our season," he said.

"When we got back to playing league matches we had something like nine games to catch up on."

"I don't like losing any game and the negative of going out of the Cup is that it costs the club financially. But the positive is that we can get our heads down and try and continue our good early league form."

"I'd rather have points on the board than be playing catch-up all season."

Non-league Football

Money talks says Newport's boss



BIG TALENT: Charlie Smeeton.

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PAUL Sleep's biggest regret about losing Charlie Smeeton and Scott Sampson from his Newport IOW side is that they didn't step up to a higher league.

Sleep, who succeeded Derek Ohren as the Islanders boss towards the

end of last season, has lost a large chunk of the team that finished tenth in the Sydenhams Premier Division and won the Russell Cotes and Isle of Wight Gold Cup.

In midfielder Iain Seabrook's case, Sleep fully appreciates why he has gone to test himself in the Southern League with Sholing.

But losing wideman Smeeton and defender Sampson to top-flight Wessex rivals Winchester City and Blackfield & Langley was harder to stomach because he views them as sideways moves rather than progression.

"Charlie's been in the Wessex League for four or five years now and he's at an age where he should be pushing on," said Sleep.

"It's the same with Scott. He was at AFC Bournemouth as a youngster and then went into the Marines and he should be playing higher.

"I think money has talked in a few cases and we've even had some players dropping down the leagues.

"Tom Scovell and squad player John Chambers have joined East Cowes Vics and Sam Hart, who has just got married, is playing Island League football.

"We've also lost (ex-

Eastleigh left-back) Adam Shepherd to Blackfield & Langley, but we didn't see him for the last three months of last season anyway.

"I don't blame anyone for moving up a league and I can understand why Iain Seabrook went to Sholing. I just think Scott and Charlie should have gone to that level too.

"After a great end to last season and having everybody signed, we were looking forward to moving the club forward with the new reserve and A teams.

"After the way we finished, winning the Russell Cotes Cup and Gold Cup, I was hoping we might have the squad to push on.

"But money came and lured a number of players away and our goalkeeper Gary Streeter has retired."

Sleep, though, has plenty of eager youngsters coming through and remains positive about the new campaign.

"Nobody says we will be at the top, but if the new boys mixed with the experienced lads who have stayed loyal show the right commitment and effort, we should enjoy the season," he said.

"What I will ask fans on behalf of the players is to please be patient and give them the support this year that they have done in the past. It really makes a difference knowing they have the fans' backing.

"We are all working hard to settle the club down and bring lads through the club's teams as well as keeping an eye out for players from elsewhere.

"It's what we want to do, but also what we have to do now as we can't compete on a financial basis."

Port stunned GE Hamble with an early John McKie goal at Follands Park on Tuesday night, but the Planemakers hit back for a 3-1 league victory courtesy of Lloyd Webber and two-goal Ashley Jarvis.

Non-league News

Vale star back for Marc's Memorial

PORT Vale's Michael Green will be lending his support to the third annual Marc Burrows Memorial Fun Day at Christchurch FC next Sunday (September 4).

The former Christchurch, Eastleigh and AFC Totton left-back got his npower League Two break with Micky Adams's Valiants during the summer, but he hasn't forgotten his roots.

A former Priory teammate of Burrows, he will be returning to his Hurn Bridge to pay his respects to the much-loved striker who tragically died of cancer in February 2009 at the age of 30.

Sandown-born Burrows, better known as 'Buzz', started out as a young striker at Portsmouth and went on to ply his trade in non-League with Brading Town, Cowes Sports, Eastleigh, Christchurch and West Moors.

He made national headlines in 2004 when he scored the quickest goal in history – netting after just two seconds for Cowes reserves against Eastleigh.

This year's fun day will feature a seven-a-side tournament featuring six teams from Bournemouth and the Isle of Wight.

In addition to the football, there will be live music, a raffle, face painting and a bouncy castle for the kids.

Gates will be open between 12 noon and 6pm. Admission is £1 with all proceeds going to Cancer Research.

Nothing goes right in Cup for Milton

CO-BOSS Darran Atkins was left to rue a calamitous chain of events as New Milton crashed out of the FA Cup 6-0 to Alton Town in Tuesday's replay.

Own goals from Tim Littler and Sean Newman, coupled with the dismissal of skipper Jon Lever for two bookings, left the Linnets reeling.

"There was no buzz about the players. They even looked flat in the warm-up," said Atkins.

"Alton didn't play any differently to how they had in the first game on Saturday, but they had more energy and enthusiasm.

"I tried to motivate the players at half-time, but it looked like their heads had already gone. It got worse when Jon was sent off about five minutes into the second half.

"His first booking was stupid, but he thought he had won the ball for the second one.

"We conceded a cheap penalty for the fifth goal and the sixth was about five yards offside.

"We should have won the first game on Saturday, but didn't turn up for the replay."

DON'T MISS MONDAY'S NON-LEAGUE REVIEW IN THE DAILY ECHO

It's a Funny World

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"When you lose, that cloud follows you around and it's a pain in the a**e" - **Ireland's Jerry Flannery** on the country's run of pre-Rugby World Cup poor results.

"I'm at the bowler's end, so I can't see. They've only got about 12 pairs of eyes round the stumps. It's not exactly the brains trust who field round there, so it's no surprise nobody picked up on it" - **Graeme Swann**, pictured points the finger at his England teammates after a failure to appeal resulted in a missed stumping opportunity against Sachin Tendulkar in the fourth Test.



"There are great footballers in Scotland. There are great teams in Scotland too, stronger than ours. Sometimes in football the strong ones don't win. I don't believe that Maribor and Sion have stronger squads than Celtic or Rangers but that's just football" - **Hearts boss Paulo Sergio** after all the Scottish teams were knocked out of the Europa League.

"It will be a long time before I want to get into the Europa League. If we look like getting in through the Fair Play League, I'm going to tackle somebody" - **Wolves manager Mick McCarthy** is keen to avoid a European adventure for the foreseeable future as the club look to establish themselves in the Premier League.

"If the flight is cancelled we may drive, have a little road trip. I don't mind driving. For the Davis Cup I drove to Scotland (from London) in five hours!" - **Andy Murray** was scheduled to fly to New York following his Western & Southern Open win over Novak Djokovic but admitted inclement weather may force a change of plan.



"I've yet to win a Carlsberg Cup tie, or whatever you call it. I don't even know what it's called and I've yet to win one" - **Roy Hodgson's**, pictured left, distaste for the Carling Cup extends to being unsure of the competition's sponsorship - not to mention his own record, having won one of his four ties before this season.

"Monday to Friday, we beat ourselves up at Newcastle, it's tradition. But Saturday is about the game, and you can't argue with the two games" - **Newcastle manager Alan Pardew** makes light of his club's turbulent start to the season off the pitch.

RUGBY WORLD CUP 2011 Fixtures and Venues



Pool A



Pool B



Pool C



Pool D



Fixtures (all times BST)

Date	Fixture	Venue (Time)
09/09	New Zealand v Tonga	Auckland (0930)
10/09	France v Japan	Auckland (0700)
14/09	Tonga v Canada	Whangarei (0600)
16/09	New Zealand v Japan	Hamilton (0900)
18/09	France v Canada	Napier (0930)
21/09	Tonga v Japan	Whangarei (0830)
24/09	New Zealand v France	Auckland (0930)
27/09	Canada v Japan	Napier (0500)
01/10	France v Tonga	Wellington (0600)
02/10	New Zealand v Canada	Wellington (0330)

Pool B*

Date	Fixture	Venue (Time)
10/09	Scotland v Romania	Invercargill (0200)
10/09	Argentina v England	Dunedin (0930)
14/09	Scotland v Georgia	Invercargill (0830)
17/09	Argentina v Romania	Invercargill (0430)
18/09	England v Georgia	Dunedin (0700)
24/09	England v Romania	Dunedin (0700)
25/09	Argentina v Scotland	Wellington (0830)
28/09	Georgia v Romania	Palmerston North (0730)
01/10	England v Scotland	Auckland (0830)
02/10	Argentina v Georgia	Palmerston North (0100)

Knockout Stages

*Two teams from each pool qualify for the knockout stages

Date	Fixture	Venue (Time)
08/10	Quarter-final 1	Wellington (0600)
08/10	Winner Pool C v Runner-up Pool D	Auckland (0830)
09/10	Quarter-final 2	Wellington (0600)
09/10	Winner Pool B v Runner-up Pool A	Auckland (0830)
09/10	Quarter-final 3	Wellington (0600)
09/10	Winner Pool D v Runner-up Pool C	Auckland (0830)
15/10	Quarter-final 4	Auckland (0830)
15/10	Winner Pool A v Runner-up Pool B	Auckland (0900)
16/10	Semi-final 1	Auckland (0900)
16/10	Winner QF1 v Winner QF2	Auckland (0900)
16/10	Semi-final 2	Auckland (0900)
16/10	Winner QF3 v Winner QF4	Auckland (0900)
21/10	Bronze-final	Auckland (0830)
21/10	Runner-up SF1 v Runner-up SF2	Auckland (0830)
23/10	Final	Auckland (0900)
23/10	Winner SF1 v Winner SF2	Auckland (0900)

Past winners

2007: South Africa	1999: Australia	1991: Australia
2003: England	1995: South Africa	1987: New Zealand

Press Association Graphic

New Zealand September 9 - October 23

Venues



England hampered by a growing injury list

ENGLAND'S back row resources have been stretched before they even depart for the World Cup after Tom Wood was forced to pull out of today's final warm-up international against Ireland.

Wood, the Northampton flanker, has suffered what England manager Martin Johnson described as a "mild calf strain" and been replaced on the bench by Stade Francais lock Tom Palmer.

England opted for only five specialist loose forwards in their 30-man World Cup squad and are also without squad captain Lewis Moody, who

is still recovering from a knee injury.

As a result, starting lock Courtney Lawes will provide the back row cover while England go into the game with two specialist second rows on the bench in Palmer and the veteran Simon Shaw.

"Tom wants to play and he's annoyed that he's not playing but where we are and where we are going, it's the right call for him not to play," said Johnson, pictured.

England are also monitoring the fitness of number eight Nick Easter, who is understood to have

had a scan on a suspected tight calf.

As with Wood, and with Chris Ashton when he rolled his ankle ahead of the Wales game a fortnight ago, Johnson is unlikely to take any risks this close to the World Cup.

But the England management are confident Easter will be fit to play.

If not, the obvious call would be to summon the Sale flanker Hendre Fourie, who missed out on World Cup selection, over to Dublin.

Johnson views the Ireland game as the perfect launch-pad for England's campaign in New Zealand,

which begins against Argentina on September 10.

He has warned his men to focus solely on beating Ireland and block out everything else - including the very real prospect of injury.

"You don't win World Cups by thinking about World Cups," said Johnson. "You have got to forget about the World Cup even when you are playing in it. How you handle it is a huge part of it."

That is where starting with experienced 2003 World Cup veterans Jonny Wilkinson, Steve Thompson and Mike Tindall will come into play both tomorrow and in the tournament.



Schumacher aims to get back on top

MOTOR SPORT

MICHAEL Schumacher insisted his conscience is clear on the day he celebrated another extraordinary chapter in his Formula One career.

Schumacher is a driver whose misdemeanours on track are remembered almost as much as his seven world titles, 91 race victories and the many other F1 records he has to his name.

So in commemorating the 20th anniversary of his F1 debut at the Spa-Francorchamps circuit, which hosts the Belgian Grand Prix this weekend, it was inevitable Schumacher would be asked whether he had any regrets.

There are many he could reflect on, such as his 1994 collision with Damon Hill in the final race of the season in Adelaide that won him the world title.

There is also his coming together with Jacques Villeneuve in the 1997

decider in Jerez which resulted in him being disqualified from the championship. And then there is the deliberate parking of his Ferrari at Rascasse during qualifying for the 2006 Monaco Grand Prix in an effort to prevent Fernando Alonso from claiming pole position.

Schumacher said: "I guess in every person's career you look at it and think about what has happened."

"In my case, taking the 20 years and everything that I've done, I would do certain things differently."

"But then in life you have to make some mistakes in order to understand it is a mistake and to set your guidelines."

"I don't have many regrets and overall, I certainly feel very excited and proud of what has happened."

In a recent interview with F1 Racing magazine, the 42-year-old has admitted he "sometimes went

over the edge", in particular in his battles with Hill.

Ross Brawn, who was the brains behind Schumacher's seven world championships, conceded "there are things he shouldn't have done", only to explain them away as "one of the ingredients of genius".

As for the German, he concedes there was a time before he entered F1 when he wondered whether he would actually be good enough.

The history books now tell us otherwise as Schumacher is the most successful driver the sport has ever seen.

But even he questioned himself at one stage, adding: "I doubted whether my quality was good enough to compete with those guys back then."

"You see them as untouchables, Senna, Prost, Mansell, and so on. I didn't really think I could match them."

"But after my first experience I

quickly picked up confidence that it was possible, and from there on we all know."

"At the end of the day we are all humans, we all have limits and you drive within those."

"But there was no reason why it was impossible to beat those guys in the past, and it is the same with these guys here right now."

Since ending his three years in retirement, the last 20 months have not gone to plan for Schumacher who has struggled to recapture past glories.

Driving for Mercedes, Schumacher, pictured, has yet to step back onto a podium he virtually owned in his heyday such was his dominance.

With Schumacher at least to see out his three-year contract, the desire still burns, which in itself is remarkable for a man who is the first to span the sport for two decades.

"That's the good thing about Formula One, it is always a motivating challenge that is great fun," said Schumacher.



Did You Know?

■ Michael Schumacher is seven-time Formula One champion, who currently drives for the Mercedes GP team.

■ He won his first Formula One race victory in 1992 and his first Formula One title in 1994.

■ Schumacher holds many of the Formula One driver records, including most championships, most race victories, fastest laps, most pole positions, most points scored and most races won in a single season – 13 in 2004.

■ Schumacher won his last title in 2004 and retired at the end of 2006, only to make a comeback for the 2010 season.

■ In 2002 he became the only driver in Formula One history to finish in the top three in every race of a season.

■ Schumacher has met all the presidents of the countries where there is a race from the calendar of Formula 1. He is a close friend of the prince of Monaco, Albert, and the prince of Saudi Arabia.

■ In January 2005 Schumacher got an audience with Pope John II.

■ Schumacher loves football and even plays for a Swiss team in the local third division of Switzerland.



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Cricket
Stats

ENGLAND were officially crowned the world's top-ranked Test team for the first time after completing a 4-0 series whitewash over India at the Kia Oval this week.

Here, the *Sports Pink* rates the performances of the players in the historic series, including former Rose Bowl stars Kevin Pietersen and Chris Tremlett.

ANDREW STRAUSS: The skipper's leadership and planning alongside team director Andy Flower have been lauded as a key reason for England's ascent to the top. Those plans left India a thoroughly beaten team by the end. All that was missing from his series was a century **8/10**



ALASTAIR COOK: A career-best 294 at Edgbaston may have been his only score above 50 in the series but Cook's star continues to shine after his prolific Ashes tour in the winter **7/10**



IAN BELL: His maturity as a Test batsman was underlined by his successful return to number three following Jonathan Trott's injury. Such is England's strength a career-best 235 at The Oval and 504 runs in the series may not even be enough to displace Trott on his return .. **9/10**



KEVIN PIETERSEN: The former Hampshire right-hander proved a point to his critics in the opening Test at Lord's when he was prepared to battle early on way to an unbeaten 202. The runs flowed thereafter as he top-scored for the series with 533 runs at 106.60 **9/10**

**EOIN MORGAN:**

Starting to look more at home as a Test number six after a century at Edgbaston helped put a tough start to the series behind him **7/10**

**JONATHAN TROTT:** The

right-hander's series was cut short after suffering a shoulder injury in the field in the second Test. His impressive recent record ensures he should return to three on his return **6/10**



CONTINUED ON FACING PAGE

ENGLISH CRICKET ON TOP OF THE WORLD – NOW



CELEBRATION TIME: England after caning India 4-0.

MORE TO COME

ENGLAND'S constant quest for self-improvement goes on unchecked by either their world number one status or latest trouncing of India.

Andrew Strauss handed the reins back to limited-overs captains Eoin Morgan, Stuart Broad and Alastair Cook with a 4-0 whitewash of the

tourists on their collective CV after this week's innings-and-eight-run victory.

The elite class of 2011 can add their historic win over India – England's first whitewash of any opponents in a series of four matches or more for seven years – to the Ashes glories of 2005 and 2009.

But Strauss' England have no truck with continued self-congratulation, and are already collectively mindful of the challenges ahead.

They include limited-overs matches home and away against India – including one at Hampshire's Rose Bowl next month – and the Asian challenges of Pakistan in the United Arab Emirates and away to Sri Lanka when they return to Tests in the new year.

"The greatest pitfall is that feeling that you've done it all, therefore you're not willing to put in the hard work," said Strauss.

"I'd be very disappointed if we fell into that trap. It's not what we're about as a unit. If there are any signs of it it's

THE JOY OF A WHITEWASH: Matt Prior and Andrew Strauss at The Oval.



MIKE VIMPANY'S LOCAL CRICKET SPOTLIGHT - TURN TO PAGES 40/41

STRAUSS AIMS TO KEEP US IN POLE POSITION ...



FROM ENGLAND

important to nip it in the bud.

"We've got some very stern challenges ahead this winter in the sub-continent.

"That's an area of the world that we still need to improve in, and it's going to be a big challenge for us there.

"It's very different out there in the heat and humidity, so we need to keep adapting our skills.

"Winning away from home is always more difficult.

"We should be competitive in our conditions against anyone in the world. Away from home is harder, so we're going to

ENGLAND v INDIA TEST AVERAGES										
BATTING										
	Inn	NO	Rns	HS	Av					
JM Anderson	3	2	20	13	20.00					
IR Bell	6	0	504	235	84.00					
RS Bopara	2	1	51	44*	51.00					
TT Bresnan	3	1	154	90	77.00					
SCJ Broad	4	1	182	74*	60.66					
AN Cook	6	0	348	294	58.00					
EJG Morgan	6	0	194	104	32.33					
KP Pietersen	6	1	533	202*	106.60					
MIK Prior	6	1	533	103*	67.75					
AJ Strauss	6	0	229	87	38.16					
GP Swann	3	0	55	28	18.33					
						BOWLING				
						CJ Tremlett	1	1	4	4*
						I/L Trott	4	0	98	70
									24.50	
							Rns	Wkt	BBI	Av
						JM Anderson	540	21	5-65	25.71
						RS Bopara	13	0	-	-
						TT Bresnan	261	16	5-48	16.31
						SCJ Broad	346	25	6-46	13.84
						KP Pietersen	91	0	-	-
						GP Swann	529	13	6-106	40.69
						CT Tremlett	124	4	3-80	31.00
						I/L Trott	41	0	-	-

have to challenge ourselves to improve away from home."

Strauss will be absent from England duty for the

next four months as Cook seeks to lead his country up the world ODI rankings.

Asked whether fatigue may be a factor for those

still tasked with playing both formats, the Test captain said: "I certainly hope not.

"Confidence is high. There was a fantastic one-day series win against Sri Lanka (this summer), and here's an opportunity to take on the World Cup winners.

"There's plenty to be excited about in that one-day series, and I'm sure we'll be very keen to finish the summer again being unbeaten."

England's win at The Oval ensured they have now won as many Test matches, 20, since the start of 2009 as they did throughout the whole of the 1980s.



CELEBRATION TIME: Graeme Swann takes a wicket on the final day at The Oval.

Cricket Stats

RAVI BOPARA: England's dominant top-order meant that Bopara never got the opportunity he would have craved to prove himself after being recalled in place of the injured Trott **6/10**



MATT PRIOR: Alongside Kumar Sangakkara he is now arguably the best wicketkeeper-batsman in the world. His ability to score quick runs at seven, he averaged 67.75, served to batter India's ailing bowlers into submission. **8/10**



TIM BRESNAN: England may never truly replace the all-round abilities of Andrew Flintoff but Bresnan's 16 wickets at 16.31, while also averaging 77 with the bat, ensure he is doing a very good job filling the void. **8/10**



STUART BROAD: Entered the series with question marks over his place and finished it without any doubts he will have a long England career. Man-of-the-series after taking 25 wickets at 13.76, including a hat-trick at his Trent Bridge home ground. **9/10**



GRAEME SWANN: England's seamers did most of the damage but when called upon on a turning Oval wicket Swann spun his side to victory with nine wickets in the match. **7/10**



JIMMY ANDERSON: Spearhead of a potent attack. Anderson's ability to swing the ball and claim early wickets meant India were always under pressure and only once passed 300 in the series. **8/10**



CHRIS TREMLETT: A back injury restricted the one-time Hampshire man to just an appearance in the first Test. In his absence the return to form of Broad, plus Bresnan's all-round performances, means he may now find himself outside the best XI. **6/10**



Cricket Stats

ENGLAND'S AMAZING RUN -
ENGLAND'S TEST MATCH RECORD
IN THE LAST THREE YEARS

May 2009

Lord's: England 377 (R Bopara 143, G Swann 63 n.o.) & 32-0, West Indies 152 (G Onions 5-38) & 256.
England won by 10 wickets

Chester-le-Street: England 569-6 d (A Cook 160, R Bopara 108, M Prior 63, P Collingwood 60 n.o.), West Indies 310 (J Anderson 5-87) & 176 (J Anderson 4-38)
England won by an innings and 83 runs.

July

Swalec Stadium: England 435 (K Pietersen 69, P Collingwood 64, M Prior 56) & 252-9 (P Collingwood 64), Australia 674-6 d.
Match drawn.

Lord's: England 425 (A Strauss 161, A Cook 95) & 311-6 d (P Collingwood 54, M Prior 61), Australia 215 (J Anderson 4-55) & 406 (A Flintoff 5-92, G Swann 4-87)
England won by 115 runs.

August

Edgbaston: Australia 263 (J Anderson 5-80, G Onions 4-58) & 375-5, England 376 (A Flintoff 74, A Strauss 69, S Broad 55, I Bell 53)
Match drawn.

Headingley: England 102 & 263 (G Swann 62, S Broad 61), Australia 445 (S Broad 6-91).
Australia won by an innings and 80 runs.

The Oval: England 332 (I Bell 72, A Strauss 55) & 373-9 d (J Trott 119, A Strauss 75, G Swann 63), Australia 160 (S Broad 5-37, G Swann 4-38) & 431 (G Swann 4-120)
England won by 197 runs.

December

Centurion Park: South Africa 418 (G Swann 5-110) & 301-7 d (J Anderson 4-73), England 356 (G Swann 85, P Collingwood 50) & 228-9 (K Pietersen 81, J Trott 69)
Match drawn.

Sahara Stadium: South Africa 343 (G Swann 4-110) & 133 (G Swann 5-54, S Broad 4-43), England 574-9 d (I Bell 140, A Cook 118, P Collingwood 91, M Prior 61, A Strauss 55)
England won by an innings and 98 runs.

January 2010

Sahara Park: South Africa 291 (J Anderson 5-63) & 447-7 d, England 273 (M Prior 76, A Cook 65) & 296-9 (I Bell 78, A Cook 55)
Match drawn.

New Wanderers Stadium: England 180 & 169 (P Collingwood 71), South Africa 423-7 d.
South Africa won by an innings and 74 runs.

March

Chittagong: England 599-6 d & 209-7 d (A Cook 173, P Collingwood 145, K Pietersen 99, M Prior 84), Bangladesh 296 (G Swann 5-90) & 331 (G Swann 5-127)
England won by 181 runs.

Mirpur: Bangladesh 419 (G Swann 4-114) & 285 (J Tredwell 4-82), England 496 (I Bell 138, T Bresnan 91, J Trott 64, M Prior 62) & 209-1 (A Cook 109 n.o., K Pietersen 74 n.o.)
England won by 9 wickets

May

Lord's: England 505 (J Trott 226, A Strauss 83) & 163-2 (A Strauss 82), Bangladesh 282 (J Anderson 4-78, S Finn 4-100) & 382 (S Finn 5-87)
England won by 8 wickets.

June

Old Trafford: England 419 (I Bell 128, M Prior 93, K Pietersen 64), Bangladesh 216 (G Swann 5-76) & 123 (S Finn 5-42)
England won by an innings and 80 runs.

July

Trent Bridge: England 354 (E Morgan 130, P Collingwood 82) & 262-9 d (M Prior 102 n.o.), Pakistan 182 (J Anderson 5-54) & 80 (J Anderson 6-17)
England won by 354 runs.

Continued on facing page

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight



Con-Vincing case for Hants survival

Simon Walter

simon.walter@dailyecho.co.uk

CRICKET REPORTER

JAMES Vince believes Hampshire can still stay in the LV County Championship's first division.

The batting prodigy struck a magnificent 145 last week as Hampshire overcame a sizeable first-innings deficit to beat title hopefuls Warwickshire at Edgbaston.

Vince's second Championship century of the season came on the ground where he guided Hampshire to last year's t20 quarter-final win against Warwickshire.

It could yet turn out to be just as important in the context of Hampshire's Championship season.

Hampshire beat Warwickshire inside three days, bowling the home side out for 98 after making 416 in their second innings to set them 308 to win.

A haul of 4-13 for James Tomlinson helped ensure victory, but it was Vince's century that set up the win.

Vince said: "It was nice to get a big score because I haven't had one for a little while in the Championship. Hopefully I can kick on now and get a couple more before the end of the season."

"It's probably one of the more important ones I've scored as it puts us in a good position."

Vince's third first-class century was his first in a winning cause fol-



lowing those he scored in the draw against Yorkshire at Scarborough last year and against Sussex at The Rose Bowl in May.

"It was a cracking win," he con-

tinued. "It's probably one of the best games I have been involved with for Hampshire."

"We didn't get as many runs as we would have liked in the first

ON A RUN: James Vince, left, believes Hampshire can win their last two Championship games.

innings but the bowlers came back really well.

"There were a few good partnerships along the way in the second innings - to get more than 400 was a great effort and then the bowlers were absolutely brilliant."

"We were just trying to bat through until tea and, hopefully, if we got to somewhere near 250 ahead, it would keep us in the game."

"It was crucial to get those early wickets. The new ball was much harder to bat against but, as the ball got older, it got a bit easier."

Vince was not as successful against Worcestershire this week, dismissed for seven and 16 in a rain-affected draw.

Hampshire's failure to win means they are now 22 points adrift of safety with three games remaining to play.

But having won their last two away matches at Durham and Warwickshire, there is cause for optimism as they prepare to take on Somerset at Taunton on Wednesday, before travelling to Liverpool to play champions-elect Lancashire a week later.

"Things can change quickly in Championship cricket, you get a lot of points for winning games, and we've shown that we can win two on the bounce," added Vince.

Oversees tours test England's status

ENGLAND have not won a Test match on their last two tours of Sri Lanka.

Andrew Strauss's men are not back in Test action until next March/April, when they will travel to play a two-Test series against the Sri Lankans.

But recent history suggests the World's new number one Test team could be in for a tough time.

They were beaten 1-0 in two three-match series in 2007/08 and 2003/04.

Prior to that, Nasser

Hussain's men did win a three-Test series 2-1 in February and March 2001.

After losing the first Test by an innings and 28 runs, England hit back to win the next two - sealing the series by bowling their hosts out for just 81 in the deciding Test.

Those are the only three series England have ever played in Sri

Lanka.

They have played two one-off Test matches in the country, though.

John Emburey took six wickets as England won the first Test between the two nations in early 1982.

But Sri Lanka won in March 1993, a game where Hampshire legend Robin Smith, pictured, opened for England and scored 128 in the first



innings.

England's record away to Pakistan, who they will play in a three-Test series in the United Arab Emirates in January/February 2012, is even worse in terms of wins.

In 24 Tests, England have only tasted victory twice, though they have only been beaten four times.

Ken Barrington scored a century when England won their first ever Test in Pakistan in October 1961, while they had to wait almost 40 years for their sec-

ond success - in December 2000.

Of the first 12 Tests England played in Pakistan, they won the first and drew the next 11.

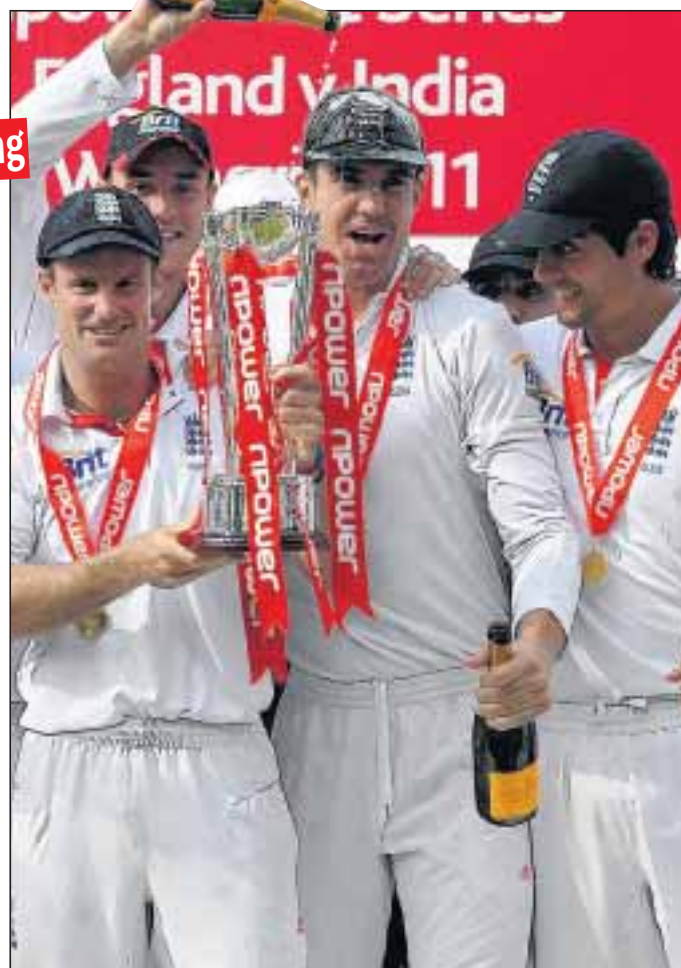
Their first defeat came in 1984 when Smith's brother, Chris, opened with Mike Gatting at Karachi.

The next two Tests, which saw two big centuries from captain David Gower and three successive half-centuries from Somerset all-rounder Vic Marks, were both drawn.

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight



A NEW WORLD ORDER



WORLD-BEATERS: Andrew Strauss and his England side celebrate their series win over India that took them to the top of the ICC World Rankings.

ENGLAND began the 2,000th Test match daring to believe they could somehow depose India's kings of world cricket.

After the 2,004th, it is scarcely possible to credit this summer's tourists inhabited the International Cricket Council's number one spot for 18 months – such was England's domination of an astoundingly one-sided series.

The statistics of this summer's 4-0 whitewash scream 'no contest'.

England's 196-run opening win at Lord's was easily the closest finish; the hosts plundered six centuries, including three doubles, one almost a triple and four different bowlers recorded five-wicket hauls or better.

For a team who prize the sum of their parts, the collective, team ethos above all, the outstanding individual performances continue to stack up.

India, meanwhile – apart from the utterly admirable and gracious Rahul Dravid – have failed on all counts.

They mustered 300 runs, all out and exactly, just once in eight attempts; they were bowled out every time they batted, twice in under 60 overs; they could bowl England out only at Trent Bridge; no one apart from Dravid made a century; only Praveen Kumar took five wickets in an innings ... and Sachin Tendulkar's wait for his

"It is hard to see England surrendering their throne as meekly as India."

100th international century extends into the forthcoming one-day series.

All along, though, England have insisted they were not trouncing a bunch of impostors but outfighting a champion team.

In name, they are right.

No one questions the greatness of Tendulkar or Dravid, or quibbles with India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni or VVS Laxman's world-class status.

But in reality, and circumstance, the 2011 Indians have been a long way from great.

Dravid is the glorious exception. But while he has been the single-handed and lonely semblance of resistance, no one else has averaged even half of his 76.83 per innings – his closest rival is unheralded Oval nightwatchman Amit Mishra.

The contrasting statistics jar again and again in England's favour – seven of their players above 50 with the bat, and two of three bowlers under 30 comfortably in the teens.

It is all too easy, of course, when there is such a chasm in the effectiveness of two opponents – especially a pair who were supposed to be set for a titanic tussle for that number one spot – to be swamped by the numbers.

Just as instructive perhaps is to trace events and factors in

England's unstoppable surge.

The suspicion was all along that, if they were to prevail – and many judges predicted by a whisker, not a landslide – it would be because they might outbowl the tourists in home conditions.

India's powerhouse batting would surely take some dismantling, but on surfaces prepared to order England had the seam and swing attack to do the job eventually.

To return fire on James Anderson, Stuart Broad, Chris Tremlett – and the 'back-up' of Tim Bresnan – the tourists had ... Zaheer Khan.

So when their left-arm lynchpin limped out of the attack midway through his 14th over, never to return after taking two for 18 at Lord's, the makings of the mismatch were beginning to take shape.

More injuries were to follow – to opener Gautam Gambhir, twice, to the increasingly hapless formerly feared off-spinner Harbhajan Singh, to Yuvraj Singh in the middle order and finally to Praveen, who had carried the attack manfully in Zaheer's absence.

Virender Sehwag missed the first two Tests after shoulder surgery and, after hurrying back to try to rescue an already ominous situation, the dangerous opener registered a king pair at Edgbaston – and not significantly better in the innings defeat which completed India's miserable campaign at The

"England have the will and skill to defend their world-beating mantle."

Oval.

The mitigation therefore is substantial for the tourists' drastic under-performance.

None of that, though, should or will detract from England's clinical superiority.

Under captain Andrew Strauss and coach Andy Flower, they are a potent mix of earnest endeavour, high skill and enthusiasm.

They are aware that their irresistible force is exaggerated by home comforts – spin, for example, was virtually redundant until Graeme Swann found just reward for his toil and talent at the Oval – and that sterner challenges await on their travels this winter, as well as back in England against South Africa next summer.

In this country, they often appear to have all bases covered; abroad, in Tests if not the one-day format, they have demonstrated they can be men for all seasons too.

Above all, England have the will and the skill to defend their new world-beating mantle proudly.

Whatever the circumstance, it is hard to see them surrendering the throne so meekly as India have, in a month of mayhem which has so emphatically rewritten the world order.

Cricket Stats

August

Edgbaston: Pakistan 72 (J Anderson 4-20, S Broad 4-34) & 296 (G Swann 6-65), England 251 (K Pietersen 80, J Trott 55) & 118-1 (A Strauss 53, J Trott 53)

England won by 9 wickets.

The Oval: England 233 (M Prior 84) & 222 (A Cook 110), Pakistan 308 (G Swann 4-68) & 148-6.

Pakistan won by 4 wickets.

Lord's: England 446 (J Trott 184, S Broad 169), Pakistan 74 (G Swann 4-12) & 147 (G Swann 5-62)

England won by an innings and 225 runs.

November

Brisbane: England 260 (I Bell 76, A Cook 67) & 517-1 d (A Cook 235 n.o., J Trott 135 n.o., A Strauss 110), Australia 481 (S Finn 6-125) & 107-1.

Match drawn.

December

Adelaide: Australia 245 (J Anderson 4-51) & 304 (G Swann 5-91), England 620-5 d (K Pietersen 227, A Cook 148, J Trott 78, I Bell 68)

Match drawn

Perth: Australia 268 & 309 (C Tremlett 5-87), England 187 (I Bell 53, A Strauss 52) & 123.

Australia won by 267 runs.

Melbourne: Australia 98 (C Tremlett 4-26, J Anderson 4-44) & 258 (T Bresnan 4-50), England 513 (J Trott 168, M Prior 85, A Cook 82, A Strauss 69, K Pietersen 51)

England won by an innings and 157 runs.

January 2011

Sydney: Australia 280 (J Anderson 4-66) & 281, England 644 (A Cook 189, M Prior 118, I Bell 115, A Strauss 60)

England won by an innings and 83 runs.

May

Swalec Stadium: Sri Lanka 400 & 82 (G Swann 4-16, C Tremlett 4-40), England 496-5 d (J Trott 203, A Cook 133, I Bell 103)

England won by an innings and 14 runs.

June

Lord's: England 486 (M Prior 126, A Cook 96, E Morgan 79, S Broad 54, I Bell 52) & 335-7 d (A Cook 106, K Pietersen 72, J Trott 58, I Bell 57), Sri Lanka 479 (S Finn 4-108) & 127-3.

Match Drawn.

The Rose Bowl: Sri Lanka 184 (C Tremlett 6-48) & 334-5, England 377-8 d (I Bell 119, K Pietersen 85, E Morgan 71, A Cook 55).

Match Drawn.

July

Lord's: England 474-8 d (K Pietersen 202, M Prior 71, J Trott 70) & 269-6 d (M Prior 103, S Broad 74), India 286 (S Broad 4-37) & 261 (J Anderson 5-65).

England won by 196 runs.

Trent Bridge: England 221 (S Broad 64) & 554 (I Bell 159, T Bresnan 90, M Prior 73, E Morgan 70, K Pietersen 63), India 288 (S Broad 6-46) & 158 (T Bresnan 5-58).

England won by 319 runs.

August

Edgbaston: India 224 (S Broad 4-53, T Bresnan 4-62) & 244 (J Anderson 4-85), England 710-7 d (A Cook 294, E Morgan 104, A Strauss 87, K Pietersen 63, T Bresnan 53).

England won by an innings and 242 runs.

The Oval: England 591-6 d (I Bell 235, K Pietersen 175), India 300 & 283 (G Swann 6-106).

England won by an innings and 8 runs.

RECORD

P	W	D	L
31	19	8	4

ENGLAND have won seven Tests since the beginning of the 2010 English summer by an innings, including five of their last nine!

SEE MONDAY'S ECHO FOR MORE CRICKET NEWS

Local Cricket Spotlight

Tight end to run race

THERE were only 39 runs in it when left-hand duo David Taylor and Ben Walker went head-to-head for the ECB Southern Electric Premier League batting prize at Havant Park today.

Prior to today's final round of matches, Alton all-rounder Taylor had 701 runs to his credit compared with Walker's 662-run tally for Havant.

Bournemouth's 37-wicket Matt Metcalfe is virtually certain to win the Barry Boorah Memorial Bowl for the second consecutive season, and Bashley's Dan Friedman the wicketkeeping prize.

Hambledon's Dan Hewitt was just two victims ahead of Paultons' Aussie leg-spinner Scott Dawes in the SPL2 bowling stakes.

Titchborne Park's Tom Allam and Sarisbury Athletic all-rounder David Banks had 31 wickets each in SPL3, with three wicketkeepers – Chris Gates, Stuart Martin and Kane Burgess – tied on 24 victims behind the stumps.

Ellis gets an Ed start

FLEDGLING Sparsholt wicket-keeper/batsman Ed Ellis, will don the gloves for the Southern Electric Premier League's Under-21 representative side in Monday's match against the Isle of Wight Cricket Board at Newclose, 12.30pm.

Ellis, 15, has caught the eye with some smart glove-work for the Winchester club this season and becomes the youngest player to represent the SPL.

Hampshire Academy leg-spin all-rounder Rob Gibson captains an all-teenage Premier League side, which includes a trio of Young Royals prospects and a South Wilts threesome. Premier League Under-21s: Rob Gibson, Chris Stone, Tom Barber (Academy), Will Phillips, Chris Jolley (Hartley Wintney), Mike Porter (Bournemouth), Tom Cowley, Jack Mynott, Owen Alsop (South Wilts), Rob Jones (Portsmouth), Ed Ellis (Sparsholt).

Jewell final face off

HARTLEY Wintney face arch rivals Hook & Newnham Basics in the long established Guy Jewell knockout Cup final at Basingstoke's May's Bounty ground on Sunday, 4pm.

VENTNOR 'READY' FOR THE BIG TIME

VENTNOR skipper Ian Hilsum had a message for his team-mates immediately after they had been crowned Division 2 champions.

"We're back in the Premier Division now and let's make sure we stay there this time," he said.

"Two seasons ago we went up and came straight back down again in a rather bizarre finale when Lymington won off virtually the last ball at Bournemouth.

"Let's hope we've learned a thing or two in the past two seasons.

"Our youngsters are more mature now and we've learned how to play at Newclose.

"In 2010, we were effectively playing every match away from home as Newclose was to all intents and purposes a 'neutral' venue."

Ventnor have won the Division 2 title by a massive margin this summer and the indications are that New Zealander Cole McConchie, who has been a huge hit at the club, wants to return to the Island next summer.

"Cole's scored almost 650 runs this season and has done a terrific amount of behind the scenes work with the colts.

"I can't praise him enough," Hilsum said.

Ventnor were presented with the



Division 2 crown at last Sunday's match against the Lashings World XI – a game that attracted close on 1,000 spectators to Newclose.

Retired Pakistan Test batsman Mohammad Yousuf stole the show

with a quite superb 101, which included five sixes and ten fours.

Yousuf came to the crease with Lashings already 77-1 after a brisk start by Jamie Mitchell (65) and Ian Harvey (35).

Lashings made 249-4 and then dismissed Ventnor for 171, with Hilsum's 60 top score.

Kiwi pair Ian Butler (3-34), who bowled with blistering pace, and Chris Harris (3-7) did the damage.

CHAMPIONS:

Ventnor show off the Southern Electric Premier League, Division 2 silverware. They are, back row (left-right): Charlie Calloway, Henry Bartlett, Adam Hose, Neil Westhorpe, Mark Holmes, David Bevan, Adam Wilson. Seated: James Cheek, Mark Fletcher, Ian Hilsum, Cole McConchie, Mark Whyte.



Burridge hopes boosted

BURRIDGE gave themselves a great chance of escaping relegation from the Southern Electric Premier Cricket League's Division 2 when they beat Portsmouth by one run last week.

If they won their final match at New Milton today, Portsmouth would be relegated.

Burridge are pictured left. They are: Back (left-right): Byron Van der Merwe, Jamie Rood, Greg Thew, Nick McMurray, Sully White and Ben Lane. Front: Nick Ball, Paul Ansell, Rick Ankers, Ollie Knight and Derek Kenway.

TURN BACK TO PAGES 20-21 FOR A T20 FINALS DAY REPORT

Local Cricket Spotlight



Ford fighting for their lives

COMPTON & Chandler's Ford were fighting for their immediate County Division 1 lives against Ryde at Shepherds Lane today.

They dropped into the three-down relegation zone when Ellingham beat them by 74 runs last week.

Compton had to beat Ryde and hope fellow strugglers Purbrook slipped up against unpredictable Idlers at West Harnham.

Compton were chasing the game directly Mark Burrett (66), Tommy Boyce (53), Matt Vail (37) and Aaron Barker (35) eased Ellingham to 237-4 in 39

overs. Amiya Pradhan, with a rasping 54 off 29 balls, and Andy Gorty (37) got C&CF off to a decent reply, but, apart from teenager Jack Brennan (36), there was little support. Compton were dismissed for 163.

Compton & Chandler's Ford are pictured left. They are – back (left-right): Bill Brown (umpire), Andy Gorty, Russ Dearlove, Pranay Rathod, Matt Haworth, Pete Peterson and Jack Brennan. Front: Nathan Williamson, Scott Spearing, Alex Spearing, Amiya Pradhan and James Aird.

The Arnold brothers shine for Bramshaw

OH brother! Tom and 14-year sibling brother Josh Arnold were the talk of New Forest cricket circles this week after producing stunning performances for Bramshaw on the same afternoon.

Tom, 17, thumped 110 against County Division 2 promotion hopefuls Ventnor, while little Josh got Hampton Park in a real spin, taking a career-best 7-36 for Bramshaw's third team in Regional 3 North West.

Tom Arnold is no stranger to scoring runs. His 110 was his second Hampshire League century of the season – he smashed six sixes and 12 fours – and took his aggregate tally for the sea-



ONES TO WATCH: Tom Arnold, left, and his brother Josh, have both shone for Bramshaw this season.

son to over 750. He shared a 128-run opening partnership with Andy Hart (69) as Bramshaw posted 260-9 before bowling Ventnor out for 246. Ironically, at the very same time as Tom was scoring his century, younger brother Josh was ripping Hampton Park's batting to shreds. Hampton Park were going nicely at 71-1, but when Arnold junior began to toss up his left-arm spinners they fell apart.

Tom clean bowled four batsmen, had two caught and trapped another one leg before wicket in an amazing spell of 7-36, which sent Hampton Park crashing to 98 all out! Bramshaw went on to win by six wickets.

The only 'loser' in the family was father Ben Arnold, who had to keep his beaming sons in drinks all night – cokes, of course!

Boro and Heath go head-to-head

FOUR months of slog, sweat and toil was all due to come down to a nerve jangling finale at Privett Park today when Gosport Borough and Locks Heath were set to go head-to-head for the Hampshire League championship.

Seven points separated the leading pair going into the final phase of fixtures but – assuming the fixture went ahead after yesterday's rain – whoever won will be County Division 1 champions tonight, *writes MIKE VIMPANY.*

Alas, for the losers there was no guarantee of the runners-up spot. If third-placed Langley Manor won at relegated Shrewton, they would probably get enough points to nick second spot.

If the weather did have the final say, Gosport will be champions.

The winner-take-all finale was confirmed last weekend when Waterlooville, already on the fringe, toppled out of the promotion joust having been thrashed by Lymington's second team.

Gosport and Locks Heath took full advantage and both recorded emphatic wins.

Borough won by eight wickets at Purbrook who, having been 59-0 through Jamie Mitchell (34) and Alan Mengham (32), collapsed to 163 all out.

Martin Lee's 40 kept the ship afloat, but his efforts alone failed to prevent run happy Aussie Leeland Zeller (60) and Lee Harrop (58) from piloting Gosport to an easy win.

Zeller's runs made him the top CD1 batsman with a 712 aggregate.

Once Jack Paskins (5-35) got into Cadnam's top order, there was little doubt Locks Heath would win at Lambs Corner.

Paskins reduced the relegated New Forest side to 18-3 before Pete Elliott (57) and Richy Way (43) picked up the pieces.

Ben Fitzgerald (34) helped Cadnam on to 190 – but Locks Heath raced home with Alex Richardson (86 not out) and Chris Boyd (37) at the helm.

Langley Manor had to overcome a top order wobble before nailing Portsmouth & Southsea by

four wickets at Knellers Lane.

Chasing a P&S total of 182-8 (Dave Upton 76), Manor slumped to 82-5 before Hamish Blomfield (45) and Craig Renders (43 not out) turned things around.

Ironically, neither of the two bowlers chasing the

HOW THEY STAND

	P	W	T	L	To	Ave
Gosport Borough	14	12	0	2	288	20.57
Locks Heath	14	12	0	2	281	20.07
Langley Manor	14	11	0	3	275	19.64
Waterlooville	13	9	1	3	237	18.23
Midhurst	13	8	0	5	219	16.85
Alton II	14	8	0	6	214	15.29
Bedhampton	13	7	0	6	185	14.23
Andover II	12	5	2	5	170	14.17
Idlers	13	5	1	7	167	12.85
Portchester	12	4	1	7	153	12.75
Lymington II	14	5	1	8	178	12.71
Ryde	14	6	0	8	177	12.64
Ellingham	13	5	0	8	158	12.15
Portsmouth & S	15	5	0	10	181	12.07
Purbrook	15	6	0	9	179	11.93
Compton & CF	14	5	0	9	161	11.50
Shrewton	12	3	0	9	118	9.83
Cadnam	13	2	0	11	108	8.31

CD1 prize – Alex Fletcher and Graham Noble – managed a wicket!

Waterlooville were already struggling to feature in today's climax after losing to Locks Heath a fortnight ago.

Lymington's thumping

150-run win simply rubbed salt into the wound.

Hampshire Under-14 prospect Finn Ambrose, who hit 69 and later went on to take 3-23, gave Lymington a decent start.

But it was a six-ball blitz by Simon Naylor (48) off the hapless Nathan White that sent Lymington's score rocketing to 242-8 (Bryn Darbyshire 35).

Naylor blitzed White for 28 runs off one over – 6-6-4-2-6-4, with the 'two' being a brilliant stop on the boundary.

It was all too much for the Ville, who crumbled to 92 all out.

Midhurst sent down 56 extras in conceding 245-6 at Bedhampton, who swept to a seventh straight win and seventh place in the league.

It's been a staggering second half of the season for Bedhampton, who lost their first six games!

Portchester, who slipped close to the danger zone recently, scrambled a nervous one-wicket win against Alton II off the penultimate ball at Cams Hill.

Julian Ballinger, with 56 and a subsequent 4-39 return, held Alton together and helped post a competi-

tive 173. Portchester appeared well set at 73-1, but lost nine wickets before stumbling across the line.

Ryde owed much to eighth-wicket pair Tom Morgan (40) and Ben Dore (25) for their 30-run win over wedding weakened Idlers at Hardings Shute.

Despite the earlier efforts of Don Gordon (34) and Jamie Icke (29), Ryde were struggling seven down but managed to post 170 (Travis Bartels 3-57).

Gordon's 4-34 spell accounted for three of the Idlers' top order and it was primarily due to Joe Cranch (68) and last man Rawle Beckles (28) that the Salisbury club got as many as 140.

Shrewton said their farewells to County 1 cricket when their visit to Andover was washed out. They needed to win to avoid relegation.

It was probably between Compton & Chandler's Ford and Purbrook as to who drops out alongside Cadnam and Shrewton, although Portsmouth & Southsea weren't entirely safe going into today's duel with Portchester.

Scare are they now



EASTLEIGH, WINCHESTER AND DISTRICT: Back (from left): Keith Mahers, Daniel Barker, Alex Nichols, Ryan Bartlett, Anthony Shaw, David Goss, Simon Woodley, Alan Smith, Nick Lumb. Front- Matthew Chalke, Steve Berrill, Robby Mulcahy, Adam Lucas, Jason Ahmet, Neil Carstairs, Steve Basham. January 1992.

Order no: 13008287



HEDGE END RANGERS: Back (from left): Frank Hopkins, John Burden. Middle: Kevyn Judd, James Cox, Gareth Lakeman, Matthew Hopkins, Matthew Thorne, Ross Harrison, David Bakshi. Front: Russell Mills, Philip Lyons, Stuart Floyd, Daniel Prendergast, Gareth Barfoot, Alex Curtis, Lloyd Mitchell. February 1992.

Order no: 13008299



ITCHEN COLLEGE: Back (from left): Anthony Waghorn, James Taylor, Peter Allison, Martin Cornwall, Scott Anderton, Richard Waghorn, John Llewellyn, Stuart Brown, Dennis Huxtable. Front row- Tim Humberstone, Stuart Baker, Glen Colmer, Jamie Husbands, Lee Rowe. December 1992.

Order no: 13008305



EASTLEIGH AND WINCHESTER & DISTRICT: Back (from left): Richard O'Sullivan, Simon Woodley, Stuart Gray, Daniel Baker, Steve Wood, Anthony Shaw, Neil Carstairs, Ryan Bartlett, Nick Lumb, David Goss, Alex Nicholas, Keith Mahers. Front row- Adam Lucas, Stephen Basham, Stephen Berrill, Matthew Chalke, Robbie Mulcahy, Jason Ahmet, Alan Smith. April 1992.

Order no: 13008314



ROMSEY SCHOOL: Back (from left): Gregory McGall, Paul Longland, Martin Deretuert, Richard Percy, Simon Gritt, Simon Woodley, Alan Smith, Stephen Robinson, Matthew Whitfield. Front row- Christopher Bennett, Clint Coombs, Alex Nicholas, Paul Gardy, Robin Abbott, Richard Dunne, Jeremy Topp, Jonathon Herbert, Christopher Beale. April 1992.

Order no: 13008317



TOTTON RANGERS: Back (from left): Trevor Lamb, Kevin Haime. Middle: Michael Andrews, Anthony Whicher, Lee Baker, James Whicher, Robin Blake, Michael Haime. Front: Aaron Page, Matthew Taylor, Darren Minnock, Phil Hingston, Andrew Rossiter. January 1992.

Order no: 13008320



S & D UNDER 10'S: Back (from left): Gary Harvey, John Brewer, Robert Burch, Lee Whittaker, Paul Burgess, Anthony Willis, Paul Cartin, Matthew Thomas, Tom Sherwin. Front: Michael Cooper, Gary Hale, Kevin Ashley, Ryan Doyle, Adam McCarthy, Jonathon Muncey. February 1992.

Order no: 13008340



WIDBROOK UNITED after winning the under 13 section of the Everton Youth FC five-a-side tournament. May 1992.

Order no: 13008344

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Scare are they now



EASTLEIGH MINOR LEAGUES under 15's. March 1992.
Order no: 13008238



WALTHAM WOLVES under 10's. October 1992.
Order no: 13008240



WORTHIES SPORTS under 14's. October 1992.
Order no: 13008242



FAWLEY FALCONS under 13's. April 1992 with Saints star Neil Maddison, far right on back row.
Order no: 13008252



THE boys from Calmore Post Offices team at Arun Leisure Centre with (from left) Rick Clifton, Paul Mason and Richard Nash. April 1992.
Order no: 13008264



BARTON PEVERIL COLLEGE. Back (from left) Daniel Pitts, Terry Koizou, Richard Hooton, Dominic Targett, Jon Richardson, Ian Quirk, Simon Knibbs. Front- Stuart Calvert, Alastair Peat, Chris Waugh, Andrew Price, Graham Longdin, Daniel Fee, Richard Dibden. March 1992.
Order no: 13008268



TOTTON RANGERS UNDER 11'S. Back (from left) Mark Dando (coach), Simon Wilmot-Wilkinson, Richard Hingston, Brian Holt, Paul Garry, Peter Vaughan, David Holmes, Greg Jerabeck, Dave Vaughan (manager). Front- Paul Oakley, Phillip Wheeler, Sam Flux, Cieron Hamblin, Greg Hiscock, Andrew Turner, Adrian Farwell. February 1992.
Order no: 13008271



RICHARD TAUNTON team: Back (from left): Hutchings, Timms, Whitman, Griffiths, Gray, Singh. Front: Angora, Harfield, Fleming, Whicher, Cousens, Laycock. November 1994.
Order no: 13016328

SEND YOUR SCARE ARE THEY NOW MEMORIES TO echosport@dailyecho.co.uk

Horse Racing

WARWICK

Going: Good

2.10 TURFTV HANDICAP (CLASS 5). £3,500 added 3YO PLUS 6f Penalty Value £2,264.

1	114200	BERMONDSEY BOB (IRE) (9) (D) J Spearing 5 9 10	Cathy Gannon 9
2	405012	RAINY NIGHT (10) (D) R Hollinshead 5 9 8	J Duern (7) 7
3	51106	DEAD COOL (18) (D) H Morrison 3 9 7	S Drowne 11
4	400065	PENNY'S PEARL (IRE) (9) (D) P Evans 3 9 7	M Cosham (5) 3
5	600136	DOWNHILL SKIER (IRE) (11) (D) W Brisbane 7 9 7	S W Kelly 8
6	550155	SHOSTAKOVICH (IRE) (39) (D) S Kirk 3 9 6	J Doyle 12
7	0-2501	OH SO SPICY (25) (D) C Wall 4 9 6	G Baker 10
8	043405	MAKE MY DREAM (29) (C) J Gallagher 9 9 6	T O'Shea 5
9	45031	PARADISE SPECTRE (14) (D) Mrs K Burke 4 9 3	H Bentley (3) 6
10	105535	DUALAGA (18) (D) M Bosley 7 9 2	D O'Neill 6
11	200225	STEEL CITY BOY (IRE) (39) (CD) G Woodward 8 8 13	J Quinn 1
12	00-06	JIBOUTI (IRE) (5) C Brittain 3 8 10	N Callan 4

BETTING: 9-2 Oh So Spicy, 11-2 Rainy Night, 13-2 Dead Cool, 15-2 Paradise Spectre, Downhill Skier, 10-1 Steel City Boy, Dualaga, 12-1 Shostakovich, Make My Dream, Bermondsey Bob, 14-1 others.

2.45 AVON TOYS LEAMINGTON NURSERY (CLASS 5). £3,500 added 2YO only 5f 110yds Penalty Value £2,264.

1	332	SCHOOL FEES (18) H Candy 9 7	D O'Neill 8
2	062551	STEPPER POINT (18) (D) W Mull 9 6	G Baker 16
3	160342	MUSICAL VALLEY (6) (D) T Dascombe 9 6	R Kingscote 15
4	222	EXCAVATOR (60) (BF) R Charlton 9 6	S Drowne 12
5	1044	I'M STILL THE MAN (IRE) (54) (D) W G Turner 9 5	X Kof (3) 9
6	45462	TINA'S SPIRIT (IRE) (7) R Hannan 9 5	J Fortune 3
7	300203	MIDDLETON FLYER (IRE) (7) (D) P Evans 9 5	M Cosham (5) 14
8	261510	SILVAS ROMANA (IRE) (11) (D) W Brisbane 9 5	H Bentley (3) 10
9	330421	THE RISING (IRE) (12) E McMahon 9 3	R Mullin 5
10	3534	OCEAN MYTH (18) (D)(BF) W Haggas 9 3	L Jones 11
11	61442	BALTIC FIZZ (IRE) (37) (D) Mrs K Burke 9 2	M Harley (3) 6
12	21	AQUASULIS (IRE) (10) (D) P Evans 9 1	Cathy Gannon 2
13	203521	ASHPAN SAM (22) J Spearing 8 11	N Callan 4
14	45	CATARACT (45) J Weymes 7 13	J Quinn 1
15	4502	M J WOODWARD (17) P Green 7 12	A Atzeni 13
16	0004		

CHEPSTOW

Going: Soft

2.05 GRAND PIER WESTON-SUPER-MARE APPRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS 6). £2,500 added 3YO PLUS 5f Penalty Value £1,617.

1	164503	THE JAILER (11) (CD) J G O'Shea 8 9 7	N Garbutt 4
2	632064	TWO TURTLE DOWES (IRE) (7) M Mullineaux 5 9 7	J Young (3) 8
3	062631	CLOURBARRIER (IRE) (10) J Bradley 4 9 5	L Rowe 3
4	0354	FESTIVAL DANCE (27) R Hodges 3 9 5	J Burns (3) 8
5	506000	REFLECTIONE (10) (D) R Harris 5 9 4	M J Murphy 1
6	0-42	BEACHWOOD BAY (11) J Hughes 3 9 3	D Baudains (7) 2
7	000432	MADAM ISSHE (7) (D) M Saunders 4 8 10	J Payne 6
8	653004	LITHAAM (IRE) (19) (CD) J Bradley 7 8 7	B J Powell (5) 7
9	000007	WHEATFIELD (IRE) (47) J Thomas McGivern (7) 8 7	S Thomas Brown (3) 5

BETTING: 3-1 Colourbearer, 4-1 Madam Isshe, 9-2 Beachwood Bay, 5-1 Two Turtle Doves, 15-2 Lithaam, 10-1 The Jailer, 12-1 Reflectione, 16-1 Festival Dance, 20-1 Wheatfield.

2.40 ACTONGROUP.CO.UK NURSERY (CLASS 6). £2,500 added 2YO only 5f Penalty Value £1,704.

1	263331	ROY'S LEGACY (7) (D) S A Harris 9 13(Exc). Danielle McCreery (5) 7	
2	30464	THORPE BAY (19) M Rimmer 9 7	R Hughes 1
3	015436	LADY CAPRICE (10) (D) Mrs A Duffield 9 6	D Holland 11
4	056	KATHRYN RIVER (IRE) (65) A Haynes 9 4	R FitzPatrick 8
5	66020	CONCORDIA NOTTE (IRE) (19) R C Guest 9 3	J Crowley 4
6	452554	EMMA JEAN (IRE) (5) J Moore 9 3	A Kirby 9
7	056563	RUSSIAN BULLET (7) J Osborne 9 2	D Sweeney 2
8	554055	FIRST REBELLION (5) A Carroll 8 8	D Probert 5
9	0000	JAWIM (54) M Saunders 8 8	S Hitchcock 6
10	0040	JOLI COLOURFUL (IRE) (5) A Newcombe 8 8	R Havin 3
11	660	PROFESSOR TIM (IRE) (35) P Morris 8 8	R Powell (5) 10

RIPON

Going: Good to Soft

2.25 RACING AGAIN TOMORROW SELLING STAKES (CLASS 6). £3,000 added 2YO only 6f Penalty Value £2,045.

1	02145	ARTICULTY (IRE) (62) (D) R Fahy 9 2	L Topliss (3) 13
2	13000	BEAUMARIS (IRE) (10) Mrs A Duffield 9 2	D Nolan 5
3	1564	BELLECHANCE (10) (D) N Tinker 9 2	P Makin 2
4	656252	KOALITION (IRE) (17) (BF) Mrs D Sanderson 9 2	S De Sousa 8
5	666	UNCLE TIMMY (21) J Quinn 9 2	P B Bagg 9
6	0304	ANGEL KISS (IRE) (17) D O'Meara 8 11	D Tudhope 4
7	20	BECKIES (5) P Midgley 8 11	J Fahy (3) 6
8	60	CRIMSON SEA (IRE) (19) B Haslam 8 11	P McDonald 7
9	0050	DYLAN'S DREAM (IRE) (18) T Easterby 8 11	D Allan 10
10	5060	IN A JIFFY (IRE) (18) T D Barron 8 11	N Newman 1
11	000	LADY ADVOCATE (IRE) (21) T Easterby 8 11	R Winston 12
12	550	LOVE HER LADY (5) E McMahon 8 11	G Gibbons 11
13	00066	NADIA'S PLACE (14) N Tinker 8 11	D Cannon (3) 3

BETTING: 5-2 Koalition, 4-1 Bellechance, 13-2 Beaumaris, 8-1 Angel Kiss, 10-1 Beckies, Articuly, Uncle Timmy, 16-1 Look Here's Lady, Crimson Sea, 25-1 others.

3.00 PAUL LAURA AND OLIVIA CELEBRATION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS 5). £3,500 added 3 to 4YO 1m Penalty Value £2,264.

1	03-	ALBERT BRIDGE (306) R Beckett 3 9 3	M Lane 4
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BETTING: 6-1 Excavator, 15-2 Tina's Spirit, 8-1 Stepper Point, Ocean Myth, School Fees, 10-1 Musical Valley, Baltic Fizz, Worth, 12-1 others.

3.20 LEAMINGTON FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS 3). £10,300 added 3YO PLUS 7f Penalty Value £6,663.

1	400534	COLONIAL (IRE) (16) (D) S Bin Suroor 4 9 0	L Dettori 5
2	1-5040	INER (IRE) (65) (D) B Meenan 4 9 0	S W Kelly 6
3	3-0300	INVINCIBLE SOUL (IRE) (68) R Hannan 4 8 11	J Fortune 2
4	546-20	MIA'S BOY (16) (D) C Dwyer 7 9 1	A Atzeni 1
5	20J205	MON CADEAUX (9) A Balding 4 8 11	L Keniry 7
6	35-000	RODRIGO DE TORRES (9) (D) Mrs K Burke 4 8 11	M Harley (3) 7
7	0100-2	AL AASIFH (IRE) (30) S Bin Suroor 3 8 6	R Mullin 9
8	0-4002	FORJATT (IRE) (18) R Varian 3 8 6	N Callan 8
9	/0025-	SOS BRILLANTE (CH) (528) (D) T Clement 6 8 6	R Kingscote 4

BETTING: 10-3 Colonial, 4-1 Al Aasifh, Forjatt, 13-2 Inler, 8-1 Mon Cadeaux, Mia's Boy, 12-1 Invincible Soul, Rodrigo De Torres, 20-1 Sos Brillante.

3.55 BRITISH STALLION STUDS SUPPORTING BRITISH RACING E.B.F. MAIDEN STAKES (DIV 1) (CLASS 5). £4,600 added 2YO only 7f Penalty Value £2,976.

1	0	ASHES STAR (35) J Portman 9 3	R Kingscote 7
2	00	DARROW (IRE) (17) W Knight 9 3	S W Kelly 12
3	02	ENDOWING (IRE) (17) R Hannan 9 3	D O'Neill 11
4	2	FARAA (IRE) (33) R Varian 9 3	N Callan 5
5	00	METHAEN (USA) (23) E Dunlop 9 3	T O'Shea 3
6	0	NEVER SATISFIED (17) C Hills 9 3	M Hills 1
7	00	ROMANTIC (IRE) (23) Sir H Cecil 9 3	I Mongan 9
8	23	SHOT IN THE DARK (IRE) A Balding 9 3	L Keniry 10
9	23	SURFER (USA) (33) (BF) M Al Zarooni 9 3	L Dettori 4
10	00	EMMAN BEE (IRE) J Gallagher 8 12	Cathy Gannon 2
11	00	LA CONFESSION (30) J Hills 8 12	P Hills (3) 6
12	0	NORFOLK SKY (18) C Wall 8 12	N Mackay 13
13	00	ROMANTY SPIRIT (IRE) (14) J Boyle 8 12	S Drowne 8
14	3	SHE SPIRIT DI SU (IRE) (16) P Chapple-Hyam 8 12	J Fortune 14

BETTING: 11-4 Endowing, 10-3 Farrag, 7-1 Romantic, 8-1 She Spirit Di Su, Surfer, 14-1 Never Satisfied, 16-1 Methaen, La Confession, Ashes Star, 20-1 others.

3.15 BRITISH STALLION STUDS SUPPORTING BRITISH RACING E.B.F. MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS 5). £4,900 added 2YO only 1m Penalty Value £3,170.

1	66	BATHWICK STREET (5) P Evans 9 0	E Creighton 7
2	66	DUBAI RHYTHM (11) M Appleby 9 0	R FitzPatrick 3
3	0	EURYSTHEUS (IRE) (30) R Hannan 9 0	R Powell (5) 2
4	0	HYPERLINK (IRE) (30) M Johnston 9 0	D Holland 2
5	0	KHAN OF KHANS (IRE) (35) Miss R Curtis 9 0	D Sweeney 5
6	2	KID SUITOR (IRE) (10) R Hannan 9 0	R Hughes 8
7	0	KINGS COMBE (USA) (41) Pat Eddery 9 0	A Kirby 10
8	00	REWAY STRIKER (6) D Donovan 9 0	D Probert 4
9	0	TUSHUK TASH (USA) M Channon 9 0	S Hitchcott 1
10	0	WAYNE MANOR (IRE) (4) R Beckett 9 0	J Crowley 9

BETTING: 4-5 Kid Sutor, 8-1 Hyperlink, Tushuk Tash, 10-1 Wayne Manor, 12-1 Khan Of Khans, Eurystheus, 16-1 Bathwick Street, Kingscombe, Dubai Rhythm, 33-1 Recway Striker.

3.50 BRITISH STALLION STUDS SUPPORTING BRITISH RACING E.B.F. MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN FILLIES' STAKES (CLASS 5). £4,900 added 2YO only 1m Penalty Value £3,170.

1	ABUNDANTLY	(IRE) H Morrison 9 0	R Havin 8	
2	ANNALUNA	(IRE) P Evans 9 0	E Creighton 7	
3	BRUNDON	H Candy 9 0	D Sweeney 6	
4	FLEUR DE LA VIE	(IRE) R Beckett 9 0	J Crowley 4	
5	GOOD MORNING STAR	(IRE) M Johnston 9 0	D Holland 5	
6	JOHANNA FOSIE	(IRE) M Channon 9 0	S Hitchcott 3	
7	0	KOZMINA BAY	(47) J Portman 9 0	M Davies (3) 9

2	-04035	CHADFORD (43) T Walford 3 9 3	D Tudhope 7
3	2	LANDAMAN (IRE) (12) M Johnston 3 9 3	S De Sousa 6
4	36	LORD EMERSON (38) R Fahy 3 9 3	L Topliss (3) 13
5	400	QUADRANT (IRE) (33) R Meenan 3 9 3	M Dwyer 5
6	0	SENDAROSE (IRE) (23) T Easterby 3 9 3	D Allan 8
7	0	DFRRA (IRE) (137) C Brittain 3 8 12	P Robinson 2
8		MAVEN T Easterby 3 8 12	R Winston 3
9	5	NEUTRAFA (IRE) (15) J Mackie 3 8 12	M O'Connell (3) 9
10		ULTIMATE BEST M Mullineux 3 8 12	P McDonald 1

BETTING: 11-4 Landaman, 4-1 Quadrant, Albert Bridge, 5-1 Lord Emerson, 10-1 Maven, 12-1 Neutrafa, 14-1 Sendarose, 20-1 Duffad, Chadford, 25-1 Ultimate Best.

BETTING: 11-4 Landaman, 4-1 Quadrant, Albright Bridge, 5-1 Lord Emerson, 10-1 Maven, 12-1 Neutrafa, 14-1 Sendarose, 20-1 Dfrfa, Chadford, 25-1 Ultimate Best.

3.35 RIPON ROWELS HANDICAP (CLASS 2). £16,000 added 3YO PLUS 1m Penalty Value £10,082.

1	-10004	WANNABE KING (23) (CD) D Lanigan 5 9 12	T Durcan 17
2	500001	OSTEOPATHIC REMEDY (IRE) (30) (CD) M Dods 7 9 9	R Winston 5
3	520316	SHAVANSKY (33) (D) B Millman 7 9 9	J Crowley 15
4	233250	SNOW BAY (23) (CD) D Nicholls 5 9 9	M O'Connell (3) 15
5	530300	DUBAI DYNAMO (9) (CD) Mrs R Carr 6 9 9	P McDonald 16
6	00-645	DESERT KISS (33) (D) W Swinburn 6 9 9	J Fahy (3) 14
7	26-610	XILERATOR (IRE) (65) (BF) D Nicholls 4 9 6	A Mullin 9
8	100100	MASKED DANCE (IRE) (11) (D) K Ryan 4 9 6	P Makin 13
9	00-60	MASTER OF ARTS (USA) (12) (D) M Johnston 6 9 5	S De Sousa 12
10	103004	DESERT ROMANCE (IRE) (16) (D) O'Meara 5 9 4	D Tudhope 11
11	40-031	CITY OF THE KINGS (IRE) (75) (CD) G Harke 6 9 3	G Gibbons 3
12	00-01	STEVIE THUNDER (31) (D) J Williams 6 9 3	R Clark (3) 2
13	122050	LORD AERYN (IRE) (34) R Fahy 4 9 2	L Topliss (3) 1
14	22434	DOLPHIN ROCK (23) (D) T Barron 4 8 13	L Newman 6

4.30 BRITISH STALLION STUDS SUPPORTING BRITISH RACING E.B.F. MAIDEN STAKES (DIV 2) (CLASS 5). £4,600 added 2YO only 7f Penalty Value £2,976.

1	34	ALWAYS ET TOUJOURS (89) M Johnston 9 3	F Tylicki 2
2	0	ASIFA (IRE) S Bin Suroor 9 3	L Dettori 7
3	0	BOUNTIFUL CATCH (48) Mrs P Sly 9 3	M Fenton 6
4	52	COOL HAND LUKE (IRE) (19) T Dascombe 9 3	R Kingscote 3
5	00	JAMBOBO (37) W Knight 9 3	S W Kelly 4
6	243	PICKLED PELICAN (IRE) (21) (BF) W Haggas 9 3	L Jones 8
7	0	QUIXOTE (24) C Brittain 9 3	R Firench 13
8	3	SPOKE TO CARLO (13) Eve J-Houghton 9 3	N Callan 12
9	0	STRICTLY SILVER (IRE) (10) A Bailey 9 3	Cathy Gannon 5
10	2	ENTHALL (IRE) D Cokley 8 12	T O'Shea 9
11	2	EVERLONG (23) (BF) P Chapple-Hyam 8 12	J Fortune 1
12	364	REPRESENT (IRE) (89) M Channon 8 12	S Drowne 11
13	0	SARATOGA SLEW (IRE) (23) C Hills 8 12	M Hills 10

BETTING: 10-3 Everlong, 4-1 Cool Hand Luke, Asifa, 5-1 Pickled Pelican, 10-1 Always Et Toujours, 12-1 Represent, Spoke To Carlo, 14-1 Saratoga Slew, 16-1 others.

5.05 TIM STACEY 40TH BIRTHDAY HANDICAP (CLASS 6). £3,500 added 3YO PLUS 1m 7f Penalty Value £2,386.

1	1-0650	DRAWN GOLD (37) (C) R Hollinshead 7 10 0	G Baker 8
2	010031	BLAZING BUCK (38) (CD) A Carroll 5 9 8	L Jones 6
3	060511	MINA'S BOY (25) E Dunlop 3 9 1	M Davies (3) 6
4	0-6504	ASTROMON (16) M Tompkins 4 9 1	J Quinn 3
5	550530	CAN CAN DANCER (1) C Smith 6 9 0	A Atzeni 5
6	06045	GREEN FUTURE (USA) (18) Mrs A Perrett 3 8 13	N Callan 12
7	45036	TIGER TESS (23) J Portman 3 8 12	R Kingscote 11
8	-00045	NEIGHBOURHOOD (USA) (49) H Evans 3 8 5	R Da Silva (7) 7
9	500043	MOUNTAIN MYST (17) W Mull 3 8 4	W Carson 9
10	-04323	ARCTIC REACH (42) B Powell 3 8 2	Cathy Gannon 10
11	0-0006	DIXIE LAND BAND (9) W G M Turner 3 8 1	R Thomas 2
12	5-0005	DHAMPAS (17) J Boyle 3 8 1	N Mackay 4

BETTING: 11-4 Mina's Boy, 7-2 Blazing Buck, 13-2 Arctic Reach, 10-1 Mountain Myst, Tiger Tess, Green Future, 12-1 Drawn Gold, Dixie Land Band, 14-1 others.

4.25 WYVERN ICES HANDICAP (CLASS 5). £3,500 added 3YO PLUS 1m Penalty Value £2,264.

1	56-345	FINAL VERSE (194) (D) Sal Salaman 8 9 12	A Kirby 5
2	050333	BIDABLE (5) C Palling 7 9 11	M Davies (3) 6
3	450245	TAKTANKS (14) (D) M Appleby 4 9 10	Lucy Barry (5) 2
4	421010	FLEETWOODS (IRE) (21) J Bradley 4 9 10	D Sweeney 12
5	330501	MR UDAGAWA (25) (CD) S J Llewellyn 5 9 7	Thomas Brown (7) 7
6	60-4	OMNIPOTENT (IRE) (37) R Hannan 3 9 3	R Hughes 8
7	500000	UNBREAK MY HEART (IRE) (13) (D) R C Guest 6 9 1	J Payne (7) 6
8	6-6002	ASHKALARA (16) (CD) H Howe 4 9 0	J Crowley 9
9	4810-0	CALLIE'S ANGEL (91) B Palling 3 8 9	D Probert 11
10	5-3040	MY SISTER (18) M Usher 4 8 7	E Creighton 1
11	0-0005	LUV U NOO (48) B Baugh 4 8 7	R FitzPatrick 4
12	-06000	SAFARI GUIDE (5) D Burchell 5 8 7	S Hitchcott 10

BETTING: 11-4 Omnipotent, 9-2 Mr Udagawa, 13-2 Ashkalara, 8-1 Bidable, Final Verse, Lockatanks, 10-1 Luv U Noo, 12-1 Fleetwoods, 14-1 others.

5.00 ROBERT MOTTRAM MEMORIAL HANDICAP (CLASS 6). £2,500 added 3YO PLUS 7f Penalty Value £1,617.

1	632212	GEORGE THISBY (10) (D)(BF) B Millman 5 9 12	L Rowe (7) 2
2	200351	KATMAI RIVER (IRE) (11) (D) M Usher 4 9 10	D Probert 3
3	004046	KYLLACHY STORM (16) (D) Hedges 7 9 9	M Davies (3) 6
4	330156	EUROQUIP BOY (IRE) (21) (CD) M J Scudamore 4 9 7	E Creighton 15
5	-30042	OBITER DICTA (18) H Candy 3 9 7	Amv Scott (5) 17
6	000000	GOLDEN HINDE (5) R Harris 3 9 7	M J J Murphy (7) 13
7	013005	CAPE KIMBERLEY (13) (D) A Newcombe 4 9 6	R Havin 10



Horse Racing

EPSOM DOWNS

Monday's runners

Going: *Sprint Good-Good to Soft in plcs; Round Good to Soft*

2.00 JRA/BRITISH STALLION STUDS E.B.F. MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS 5). £6,000 added 2YO only 7f Penalty Value £3,881.

1	063	BLANK CZECH (IRE) (17) Mrs A Perrett 9 3	.....	S Donohoe 7
2	3	GULF OF ALASKA (38) (BF) M Al Zarooni 9 3	.....	W Buick 2
3	24	GUNNER WILL (IRE) (45) G Baker 9 3	.....	Hayley Turner 8
4	003	IL PAZZO (22) Mike Murphy 9 3	.....	A Culhane 6
5	05	NORTHERN TERRITORY (IRE) (23) J Boyle 9 3	.....	P Cosgrave 5
6	0	REGAL GOLD (24) R Hannan 9 3	.....	P Dobbs 1
7	645	STATOS (IRE) (13) Sir H Cecil 9 3	.....	T Queally 9
8	0	SWIFT CAT (19) J Best 9 3	.....	C Catlin 3
9	53	ASHBINA (8) W Haggas 8 12	.....	E Ahern 4
10	05	MOUNT ST MISTRESS (25) G Baker 8 12	.....	A Murgia (5) 10

BETTING: 11-4 Gunner Will, 4-1 Ashbina, 5-1 Blank Czech, Gulf Of Alaska, 10-1 Statos, 12-1 Mount St Mistress, Swift Cat, Il Pazzo, 20-1 others.

2.30 DOWNLOAD THE EPSOM IPHONE APP HANDICAP (CLASS 5). £5,000 added 3YO only 6f Penalty Value £3,234.

1	1-0602	CELTIC SIXPENCE (IRE) (23) (D) N Quinlan 9 7	.....	T Queally 2
2	5021	NON VISAGE (23) (D) C Wall 9 7	.....	W Buick 4
3	106042	SUGAR BEET (5) (D) R Harris 9 6	.....	Kirsty Milcarek 1
4	060522	DIAMOND VINE (IRE) (20) (D) R Harris 9 4	.....	P Cosgrave 9
5	031330	WELSH INLET (IRE) (14) J Bridger 9 3	.....	N Chalmers 5
6	555221	ESHOOG (IRE) (6) (D) P McEntee 9 3(Bex)	.....	J Mitchell 8
7	-20000	MIXED EMOTIONS (IRE) (37) R Hannan 8 13	.....	P Dobbs 3
8	-63451	BLUE DEER (IRE) (6) (D) M Channon 8 12	.....	C Bishop (7) 6
9	004003	ONE COOL CHICK (24) J Bridger 8 2	.....	K O'Neill (3) 7

SUNDAY'S SELECTIONS

BEVERLEY: 1.50 Sunnyside Tom, 2.20 Double Cee, 2.55 Grey Command, 3.30 O'Gorman, 4.05 Rutterkin, 4.40 Bryon Bear.
CURRAGH: 2.15 Pearl In The Sand, 2.45 Lightening Pearl, 3.15 Bible Belt, 3.50 Move In Time, 4.25 La Collina, 5.00 Pires, 5.30 Universal Truth.
GALWAY: 2.25 Stigh Collain, 2.55 Bessie Lou, 3.25 Oneightofamilie, 4.00 Mr Nosit, 4.35 Idarah, 5.10 Pistol Jack, 5.40 Capisci.
GOODWOOD: 2.10 Damika, 2.45 Shabak Hom, 3.20 LIBRANNO (NAP), 3.55 Push Me, 4.30 Lady Elsie, 5.05 Seamus Shindig.
YARMOUTH: 2.00 Alhira, 2.35 Bell's Ocean, 3.10 The Guru Of Gloom, 3.45 Bouncy Bouncy, 4.20 Mystic Edge, 4.55 Astrolibra, 5.25 Locum.

DOUBLE: Libranno and O'Gorman.

GOODWOOD

Sunday's runners

Going: *Good to Soft-Good in places on Round Course*

2.10 BANK HOLIDAY HANDICAP (CLASS 3). £11,500 added 3YO PLUS 6f Penalty Value £7,439.

101	263143	STAR ROVER (IRE) (8) P Evans 4 9 10	.....	M Cosham (5) 4
102	0-2000	GLOBAL CITY (IRE) (29) (D) S Bin Suroor 5 9 9	.....	K Fallon 9
103	660052	DAMIKA (IRE) (8) (D8) R M Whitaker 8 9 7	.....	M Stainton 1
104	000500	SWILLY FERRY (USA) (20) (D) C Hills 4 9 6	.....	M Hills 7
105	-03005	FIREBACK (29) (D) A Balding 4 9 5	.....	D Probert 3
106	542012	QUASI CONGAREE (GER) (16) (CD) I Wood 5 9 4	.....	R Hughes 10
107	4-1102	WEST COAST DREAM (114) (D)(BF) R Brotherton 4 9 4	.....	W Carson 5
108	504100	MAC GILLE EOIN (20) (CD) J Gallagher 7 9 3	.....	J Mongan 2
109	-20000	TAGULA NIGHT (IRE) (20) (CD) W R Swinburn 5 9 2	.....	A Kirby 6
110	-21451	ONELADYOWNER (16) (D) D Brown 3 8 9	.....	E Ahern 8

BETTING: 9-2 Quasi Congaree, 5-1 Oneladyowner, 11-2 West Coast Dream, 6-1 Damika, 13-2 Star Rover, 8-1 Fireback, Global City, 12-1 Swilly Ferry, Tagula Night, 16-1 Mac Gille Eoin.

2.45 FEGENTRI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP HANDICAP (GENTLEMAN AMATEUR RIDERS) (IN MEMORY OF THE LATE GAY KINDERSLEY) (CLASS 5). £5,000 added 3YO PLUS 1m 1f Penalty Value £3,120.

201	-25241	SHABAK HOM (IRE) (31) D M Simcock 4 11 12	.....	Mr N De Boinville 6
202	454024	POTENTIALE (IRE) (25) (CD) J Hills 7 11 10	.....	Mr Mario Baratti 1
203	124212	CHORAL FESTIVAL (13) (BF) J Bridger 5 11 8	.....	Mr N Kelly 5
204	2-3450	LOYALISTE (FR) (20) R Hannan 4 11 5	.....	S Schiepp 3
205	-00641	GALLEGO (16) (D) R J Price 9 10 13	.....	Mr P Deno 4
206	166050	BYRD IN HAND (IRE) (19) (CD) J Bridger 4 10 7	.....	Mr P Madden 2

BETTING: 9-4 Shabak Hom, 5-2 Choral Festival, 9-2 Gallego, 5-1 Potentiale, 10-1 Byrd In Hand, Loyaliste.

3.20 SUPREME STAKES (GROUP 3) (CLASS 1). £50,000 added 3YO PLUS 7f Penalty Value £28,355.

301	221446	THE CHEKA (IRE) (15) (D) Eve J-Houghton 5 9 4	.....	T Queally 7
302	10-000	BALTHAZAAR'S GIFT (IRE) (15) (D) C Cox 8 9 0	.....	A Kirby 4
303	324551	DONCASTER ROVER (USA) (8) (D) D Brown 5 9 0	.....	K Fallon 8
304	562010	HIGH STANDING (USA) (29) (CD) W Haggas 6 9 0	.....	G Baker 2
305	4-4004	PALACE MOON (29) W Knight 6 9 0	.....	S Sanders 6
306	438140	LIBRANNO (21) (CD)(D) R Hannan 3 8 13	.....	R Hughes 10
307	35-394	JACQUELINE QUEST (IRE) (22) (D) I Williams 4 8 11	.....	E Ahern 5
308	-146	KARAM ALBAARI (IRE) (309) J R Jenkins 3 8 9	.....	M Hills 1
309	126043	LECHEVALIER CHOISI (IRE) (8) J B McCabe (IRE) 3 8 9	.....	J Doyle 3
310	1-0100	HOORAY (10) (D)(BF) Sir M Prescott 3 8 6	.....	S Donohoe 9

BETTING: 4-1 Libranno, 9-2 Doncaster Rover, 11-2 Hooray, 13-2 The Cheka, 7-1 Lechevalier Choisi, 8-1 Balthazaar's Gift, 10-1 Karam Albaari, 12-1 High Standing, 14-1 others.

BETTING: 5-2 Celtic Sixpence, 4-1 Mon Visage, 9-2 Sugar Beet, 6-1 Blue Deer, 8-1 Diamond Vine, 10-1 Welsh Inlet, 12-1 Eshoog, 20-1 Mixed Emotions, One Cool Chick.

3.05 TRY TOTEQUICKPICK IF YOU'RE FEELING LUCKY HANDICAP (CLASS 2). £16,000 added 3YO PLUS 5f Penalty Value £9,960.

1	-10000	STONE OF FOLCA (25) (D) J Best 3 9 8	.....	T Queally 4
2	34-050	ROWE PARK (100) (D10) Mrs L Jewell 8 9 6	.....	S Donohoe 11
3	-15014	SHOSHONI WIND (23) (D) K Ryan 3 9 5	.....	DOUBTFUL 2
4	600-00	MOORHOUSE LAD (117) (D7) B Smart 8 9 4	.....	J Newman (7) 14
5	410206	SOHRAAB (23) (D) H Morrison 7 9 1	.....	K O'Neill (3) 10
6	050430	FATHOM FIVE (IRE) (16) (CD) D Nicholls 7 8 12	.....	P Dobbs 5
7	200210	STRIKE UP THE BAND (12) (D) D Nicholls 8 8 12	.....	Shirley Teasdale (7) 15

8	5035-4	CRIMEA (IRE) (16) (D) D Nicholls 5 8 11	.....	A Nicholls 9
9	10-000	PERFECT BLOSSOM (36) (CD) K Ryan 4 8 11	.....	J Mitchell 1
10	613435	YOUR GIFTED (IRE) (16) (D) P Morris 4 8 10	.....	D Kenny (7) 6
11	660034	SECRET MILLIONAIRE (IRE) (24) (D) P Morris 4 8 9	.....	S Levey (3) 8
12	-03526	LA FORTUNATA (4) (D)(BF) Mike Murphy 4 8 8	.....	A Culhane 3
13	030060	INDIAN LAD (76) (CD) D Nicholls 11 8 7	.....	W Buick 12
14	443405	JUDGE 'N JURY (20) (D8)(BF) R Harris 7 8 7	.....	Kirsty Milcarek 7
15	-20021	DIAMOND CHARLIE (IRE) (39) (CD) S Dow 3 8 7	.....	Hayley Turner 13

BETTING: 9-2 Sohraab, 11-2 Crimea, 15-2 Your Gifted, 8-1 Diamond Charlie, Secret Millionaire, 10-1 Stone Of Folca, La Fortunata, 12-1 Strike Up The Band, Moorhouse Lad, 16-1 others.

3.40 TRY TOTEQUICKPICK ON ALL TOTEPOOL BETS CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS 3). £10,300 added 3YO PLUS 1m 2f Penalty Value £6,412.

1	-46060	AL SHEMALI (156) (D) M Al Zarooni 7 9 9	Hayley Turner 5
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2	-63500	FORTE DEI MARM (34) (D) L Cumani 5 9 2	J-P Guillaumbert 7
3	201006	RESURGE (IRE) (23) (CD) W Kittow 6 9 2	P Cosgrave 3
4	0-1000	SPANISH DUKE (IRE) (34) (CD) J Dunlop 4 9 2	.....	E Ahern 2
5	0-1230	SPRING OF FAME (USA) (44) (D) S Bin Suroor 5 9 2	.....	C Catlin 1
6	415-00	VESUVE (IRE) (59) (D) S Bin Suroor 5 9 2	.....	W Buick 8
7	-22300	MEASURING TIME (34) R Hannan 3 8 8	.....	P Dobbs 4
8	13-530	PICTURE EDITOR (74) (D) Sir H Cecil 3 8 8	.....	T Queally 6

BETTING: 2-1 Al Shemali, 4-1 Forte Dei Marmi, 6-1 Resurge, 7-1 Spanish Duke, 8-1 Measuring Time, 10-1 Vesuve, Picture Editor, 12-1 Spring Of Fame.

4.15 MAY FAMILY AMATEUR DERBY (HANDICAP FOR GENTLEMAN AMATEUR RIDERS) (CLASS 4). £8,000 added 4YO PLUS 1m 4f Penalty Value £4,991.

1	16-350	BRAMALEA (32) (D) H Morrison 6 11 7	.....	Mr R Pooles (5) 4
2	210511	MEGALALA (IRE) (11) (CD) J Bridger 10 11 0	.....	Mr T Garner (5) 3
3	6-4200	ROWAN TIGER (25) (D) J Boyle 5 10 12	.....	Mr S Walker 1
4	0-6442	IF I WERE A BOY (IRE) (46) (C) D F Davis 4 10 7	.....	Mr C Martin (3) 7
5	213344	SANCHO PANZA (11) (D) Miss J Feilden 4 10 3	.....	Mr R Birkett 2
6	032002	EPSOM SALTS (31) (CD) P Phelan 6 10 3	.....	Mr F Mitchell (5) 5
7	0-0501	MAYBE I WONT (20) (CD) Mrs L Featherstone 6 10 2	Mr P Collington 8

8	016401	RESPLENDENT LIGHT (14) (D) B J Llewellyn 6 10 2	Mr R J Williams (5) 6
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BETTING: 15-8 Megalala, 4-1 Maybe I Wont, 7-1 Bramalea, 15-2 Epsom Salts, 8-1 Resplendent Light, If I Were A Boy, 10-1 Rowan Tiger, 12-1 Sancha Panza.

4.50 BET TOTEPOOL ON ALL UK RACES HANDICAP (CLASS 3). £10,300 added 3YO PLUS 1m 2f Penalty Value £6,663.

1	-34333	DON'T CALL ME (IRE) (18) D Nicholls 4 10 0	.....	A Nicholls 2
2	400510	SILVER GREY (IRE) (19) (C)(D) R Ingram 4 9 8	.....	J Mitchell 10

RICHARD Hannon looks to have found the perfect opportunity for Libranno to get back to winning ways in the Supreme Stakes at Goodwood.

A smart juvenile last season, he has performed admirably during this campaign, which is generally considered to be a hard one for sprinters in their second year racing.

He won the first three starts of his life, which included the July Stakes at Newmarket and the Richmond Stakes at Goodwood, and did not lose his unbeaten record until he took on Dream Ahead and co in the Prix Morny.

His final start at two saw him beaten just three lengths in the Mill Reef by Temple Meads.

This season he started well again, beaten into second by subsequent Guineas third Native Khan in the Craven Stakes.

Efforts were rewarded

On his return to sprinting he was a close fourth in a competitive race at Ascot, when Nunthorpe winner Margot Did finished third, and then he was third behind Bated Breath at Windsor.

Those efforts were rewarded with a win in the Group Three Criterion Stakes with solid yardsticks like Beacon Lodge and The Cheka behind.

He followed that up with the best performance of his life when fourth in the July Cup, filled the same spot behind Strong Suit at Goodwood and found things happening too quick in France last time out.

If he reproduces his Newmarket and Goodwood form he is the one to beat.

The 2010 Great St Wilfrid winner Damika looks ready to win again in the Bank Holiday Stakes.

3	450111	TENBY LADY (USA) (25) (D) Sir M Prescott 3 9 6	.....	S Donohoe 1
4	331510	YOU'VE BEEN MOWED (14) (C) R J Price 5 9 6	.....	C Bishop (7) 7
5	063223	LICENCE TO TILL (USA) (8) (D) M Johnston 4 9 5	.....	W Buick 8
6	622424	RAMONA CHASE (8) (CD) M Attwater 6 9 4	.....	M Coumbe (5) 9
7	54-520	FANNY MAY (33) D Coakley 3 9 1	.....	E Ahern 5
8	23-416	TIGER WEBB (80) Sir H Cecil 3 9 0	.....	C Eddery (7) 4
9	0-2054	WIGGY SMITH (33) (CD) H Candy 12 8 13	.....	J McDonald 6
10	-22041	CELESTIAL GIRL (13) (D) H Morrison 4 8 9	.....	C Catlin 3

BETTING: 11-4 Tenby Lady, 11-2 Don't Call Me, 6-1 Licence To Till, 7-1 Ramona Chase, 8-1 Wiggly Smith, 10-1 You've Been Mowed, Tiger Webb, Celestial Girl, 12-1 others.

5.25 CHANTILLY HANDICAP (CLASS 4). £7,000 added 3YO PLUS 1m 114yds Penalty Value £4,528.

1	063-00	KING'S COLOUR (10) (CD) B Johnson 6 10 0	.....	P Cosgrave 1
2	/00-00	BOTANIST (59) T B Coles 4 9 9	.....	S Donohoe 6
3	011350	SALIENT (18) (CD) M Attwater 7 9 9	.....	J-P Guillaumbert 2
4	0-0520	BUXFIZZ (USA) (70) (D) R Mills 3 9 7	.....	S Levey (3) 3
5	320220	DANEHILL DANTE (IRE) (37) R Hannan 3 9 4	.....	P Dobbs 7
6	000152	GREEN EARTH (IRE) (26) P Phelan 4 9 2	.....	E Ahern 8
7	002326	CAT HUNTER (18) R Harris 4 9 2	.....	Kirsty Milcarek 5
8	054055	ORIENTALIST (21) (BF) Eve J-Houghton 3 9 1	.....	T Queally 10
9	213210	WHITBY JET (IRE) (17) (BF) E Vaughan 3 9 1	.....	A Murgia (5) 4
10	-20455	YOUNG DOTTIE (14) P Phelan 5 9 0	.....	J Mitchell 9
11	020-04	MY NAME IS BERT (17) Mrs L Featherstone 5 8 9	.....	N Garbutt (7) 11

BETTING: 9-4 Green Earth, 9-2 Whitby Jet, 7-1 My Name Is Bert, 8-1 Cat Hunter, 10-1 Salient, 12-1 Danehill Dante, Orientalist, Young Dottie, 14-1 others.

Richard Whitaker's stable star is without a win since landing the bumper pot at Ripon last August but has dropped down the handicap as a result.

That success came off 94 and, before he showed signs of returning to form, he was rated as low as 88.

Having finished second at Sandown last time out he is back up to 90 but that still looks a workable mark and he handles cut in the ground.

Richard Fahey's Double Cee looks sure to improve on his debut fourth in the EBF Old Crossleyans Rugby Union Football Club Median Auction Maiden Stakes at Beverley.

Sent off at 33-1, not a lot was obviously expected of the son of Haafhd but he ran a lovely race.

He was held up off the pace and met trouble in running before running on strongly close home.

The form is not sensational but he will not have to be above average to win this heat.

Kevin Ryan thinks a fair bit about O'Gorman and would have been disappointed he could only finish third at Haydock when an odds-on favourite.

It is too early to give up on him yet, though, and he can get back to winning ways in the Jim And Margaret Daly Memorial Nursery.

David Simcock's Alhira was sent off at 66-1 for her debut at Newmarket and managed to finish second, despite running very green.

She collared John Gosden's Appointee in the final strides, and the pair meet again.

But, given Gosden's filly had already run, Simcock's youngster is taken to come out on top once more in the toteplacepot Win Without Backing A Winner EBF Maiden Fillies' Stakes at Yarmouth.

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Barclays Premier League

A. Villa.....0	Wolves.....0
HT 0-0	Att 30,776
Blackburn.....0	Everton.....1
HT 0-0	Arteta 90 pen
Chelsea.....3	Norwich.....1
Bosungwa 6	Holt 53
Lampard 82 pen	
Mata 90	
HT 1-0	Att 41,765
Liverpool.....L	Bolton.....0
HT 0-0	Att 19,938
Swansea.....0	Sunderland.....0
HT 0-0	
Wigan.....2	Q.P.R.....0
Di Santo 41,66	
HT 1-0	Att 17,225

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Chelsea	3	2	0	0	5	2	0	1	0	0	0	7
Wolves	3	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	2	1	7
Man City	2	1	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	3	2	6
Man Utd	2	1	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	2	1	6
A. Villa	3	1	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	5
Liverpool	3	1	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	5
Swansea	2	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	4
Newcastle	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Bolton	2	0	0	0	1	2	3	1	0	0	4	0
Everton	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
Q.P.R.	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	2
Stoke	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	2
Sunderland	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	1	2
Norwich	3	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	4	2
Swansea	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	2
Arsenal	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Fulham	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1
W.B.A.	2	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	1	2	0
Spurs	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0
Blackburn	3	0	0	2	1	3	0	0	1	1	3	0

npower Championship

Brighton.....2	Peterboro.....0
Noone 10	
Harley 64	
HT 1-0	Att 19,656
Crystal P.....1	Blackpool.....1
Murray 79	Baptiste 41
HT 0-1	Att 14,776
Derby City.....1	Burnley.....2
Robinson 71	Austin 49,74
HT 0-0	Att 23,913
Doncaster.....1	Bristol C.....1
Hayter 68	Adomah 45
HT 0-1	Att 7,778
Hull.....1	Reading.....0
Brady 73	
HT 0-0	Att 17,295
Ipswich.....2	Leeds Utd.....1
Scotland 77	McCormack 34
Andrews 90	
HT 0-1	Att 19,758
Leicester.....3	SAINTS.....2
Vassell 3	Harding 28
Wellens 22	Connolly 53
Lambert 45 og	
HT 3-1	Att 23,808
Middlesbro.....1	Coventry.....1
Emnes 21	Jutkiewicz 76
HT 1-0	Att 17,432
Millwall.....0	Barnsley.....0
HT 0-0	Att 10,033
POMPEY.....1	Cardiff.....1
Kanu 80	Taylor 71
HT 0-0	Att 14,354

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Brighton	5	2	1	0	6	3	2	0	0	4	1	13
SAINTS	5	2	0	0	4	1	2	0	1	8	5	12
Derby City	5	2	0	1	6	3	2	0	0	2	0	12
Middlesbro	5	1	2	0	6	4	2	0	0	4	1	11
Crystal P	5	2	1	0	5	2	1	0	1	2	2	10
Cardiff	5	1	0	1	4	4	1	2	0	3	2	8
Blackpool	5	1	0	1	2	2	1	2	0	4	3	8
Peterboro	5	2	0	1	4	1	1	2	0	5	0	7
West Ham	4	0	1	1	2	3	2	0	0	5	0	7
Leicester	5	1	0	2	4	6	1	0	3	2	7	7
Millwall	5	1	2	0	4	2	0	1	1	2	3	6
POMPEY	5	1	1	1	2	2	0	2	0	2	6	6
Hull	5	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	6	6
Ipswich	5	0	1	0	2	4	7	1	0	4	7	6
Burnley	4	0	2	0	3	3	1	0	1	2	3	5
Nottm For	4	0	2	0	2	2	1	1	0	1	2	5
Barnsley	5	0	0	2	1	1	1	2	0	1	1	2
Bristol C	5	0	0	1	1	0	3	1	1	4	5	5
Leeds Utd	5	0	1	0	1	4	2	0	1	2	4	4
Reading	5	0	0	1	1	3	4	1	0	2	2	4
Birmingham	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	5	3
Coventry	5	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	4	2	2
Watford	4	0	0	2	0	5	0	2	0	2	2	2
Doncaster	5	0	1	2	1	3	0	0	2	1	5	1

npower League One

CHERRIES.....0	Walsall.....2
HT 0-1	Jarvis 15 pen,55
Brentford.....0	Tranmere.....2
HT 0-0	Weir 28
Bury.....1	Charlton.....2
Lowe 40	Hayes 49
HT 1-0	Jackson 64
Colchester.....4	Oldham.....1
Wordsworth 1,45 pen	Reid 37 pen
Henderson 46	
Heath 56	
HT 2-1	Att 3,023
Exeter.....2	Chesterfld.....1
Archibald-Henville 16	Whitaker 33 pen
Nichols 82	
HT 1-1	Att 4,113
Huddersfld.....3	Wycombe.....0
Lee 57,71	
Roberts 82	
HT 0-0	Att 11,953
Leyton O.....1	Carlisle.....2
Smith 53	Miller 68 87
HT 0-0	Att 3,524
M K Dons.....1	Stevenage.....0
MacDonald 51	
HT 0-0	Att 8,128
Preston.....2	Notts Cnty.....0
McLean 83	
Turner 86	
HT 0-0	Att 10,759
Rochdale.....1	Hartlepool.....3
Alkpa Akpro 16	Boyd 7
HT 1-1	Poole 47 87
	Att 2,600

Sheff Wed.....3	Scunthorpe.....2
Madine 5,70	Grant 67
Marshall 17	Duffy 85
HT 2-0	
Yeovil.....0	Sheff Utd.....1
HT 0-1	Porter 41
	Att 5,001

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
M K Dons	5	2	1	0	9	4	2	0	0	3	0	13
Charlton	5	1	1	0	5	2	3	0	0	6	2	13
Sheff Utd	5	2	0	0	5	2	2	1	0	4	1	13
Preston	5	2	0	1	5	4	1	1	0	3	1	10
Tranmere	5	1	1	0	2	1	2	0	1	5	3	10
Carlisle	5	1	0	1	4	2	1	0	4	1	1	10
Brentford	5	2	0	1	7	2	1	0	1	2	3	9
Huddersfld	5	2	1	0	7	3	0	0	2	2	2	9
Sheff Wed	5	3	0	0	7	3	0	0	2	1	4	9
Walsall	5	0	1	1	4	4	0	2	1	5	4	8
Colchester	5	1	1	1	5	4	1	0	1	6	5	7
Hartlepool	5	0	2	0	1	1	1	2	0	7	5	7
Bury	5	1	0	2	3	5	1	1	0	3	1	7
Stevenage	5	0	2	0	2	2	1	1	0	4	3	6
Notts Cnty	5	1	0	1	4	4	0	2	0	2	4	6
Oldham	5	1	0	1	2	2	1	0	2	4	8	6
Wycombe	5	0	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	4	5	5
Yeovil	5	1	0	2	3	3	0	1	1	1	0	4
Exeter	5	1	1	0	2	3	5	0	1	1	0	4
Scunthorpe	5	0	1	1	2	3	0	1	0	6	3	4
CHERRIES	6	1	0	2	3	5	0	0	2	1	6	3
Rochdale	5	0	2	1	3	5	0	0	2	0	4	2
Chesterfld	5	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	3	3	9	1
Leyton O	5	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	2	0	6	0

npower League Two

Acc Stanley.....2	Burton Albion.....1
Winnard 72	Richards 39
Fletcher 81	
HT 0-1	Att 1,362
Bradford.....4	Barnet.....2
Hanson 16,54	McLeod 15,90
Branson 49	
Wells 90	
HT 1-1	Att 9,656
Bristol R.....0	Hereford.....0
HT 0-0	Att 6,342
Cheltenham.....3	Crawley.....1
Mohamed 22	Tubbs 51 pen
Pack 31	
Goulding 39	
HT 3-0	Att 2,609
Dagenham.....1	Torquay.....1
Williams 25	Howe 79 pen
HT 1-0	Att 2,012
Macclesfld.....4	AFC Wimbledon.....0
Brisley 3	
Diagne 24	
Sinclair 48	
Mendy 87	
HT 2-0	Att 1,881
Northmptn.....0	Morecambe.....2
Wilson 25 pen	Jevons 15
HT 0-2	Att 4,016
Oxford Utd.....1	Aldershot.....1
Constable 21	Guttridge 61
HT 1-0	Att 6,673
Plymouth.....0	Crewe.....1
HT 0-1	Miller 42
Port Vale.....2	Southend.....3
Loft 25,52 pen	Phillips 5
HT 1-3	Dickinson 10
Rotherham.....3	Gillingham.....0
Harrison 53	Leonard 29
Grabban 63	Att 4,615
Evans 78	
HT 0-0	Att 3,740
Shrewsbury.....2	Swindon.....1
Gornell 57	Ritchie 25
Morgan 71	
HT 0-1	Att 5,323

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Rotherham	5	2	1	0	6	2	2	0	0	6	2	13
Morecambe	5	1	0	1	2	1	3	0	0	7	1	12
Crewe	5	2	0	0	5	0	0	1	1	6	6	10
Gillingham	5	2	0	0	4	0	1	1	1	4	6	10
Dagenham	5	1	1	1	1	2	3	0	0	2	0	10
Cheltenham	5	2	0	0	1	5	3	1	0	1	3	9
Southend	5	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	1	5	6	9
Port Vale	5	1	1	1	8	6	1	1	0	4	2	8
Oxford Utd	5	1	2	0	4	2	1	0	1	2	2	8
Bristol R	5	1	1	1	3	3	1	0	3	1	0	8
Shrewsbury	5	2	1	0	5	2	0	1	1	1	3	8
Torquay	5	0	1	1	3	5	2	0	1	0	4	8
Macclesfld	5	1	1	1	4	1	1	0	1	4	2	7
AFC Wimbledon	5	0	1	1	3	4	2	0	1	4	4	7
Acc Stanley	5	2	0	1	4	3	0	1	1	1	7	7
Burton Albion	5	0	2	0	2	2	1	1	1	4	4	6
Barnet	5	0	1	1	3	5	1	1	1	5	5	5
Bradford	5	1	0	2	5	5	0	1	1	1	2	4
Northmptn	5	0	1	2	2	5	1	0	1	2	2	4
Aldershot	5	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	3	4	4
Swindon	5	1	0	1	4	2	0	0	3	1	4	3
Crewe	5	0	0	2	2	4	1	0	2	1	5	3
Hereford	5	0	0	2	0	7	0	1	1	1	2	2
Plymouth	5	0	0	3	1	7	0	1	1	1	4	1

Clydesdale Bank Premier

Dunfermline.....2	Motherwell.....4
Cardie 69,88	Higdon 11,90
HT 0-2	Murphy 26
Inverness CT.....2	Kilmarnock.....1
Taggart 26	Humphrey 55
G Shinnie 89	Att